THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD

OF

MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOLUME I.

LONDON:
W. W. MORGAN, 67 BARBICAN.
1875.

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LONDON:
PRINTED BY W. W. MORGAN,
67 BARBICAN, E.C.

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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. I.—No. 1. SATURDAY, 2nd JANUARY 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

TO OUR READERS.

ARCHIMEDES is said to have boasted that he could move the world if he could only obtain a fulcrum for his lever. This impossible feat of physical science has long since been performed for the social and moral world, and the mighty arm which moves mankind from North Cape to New Zealand, and from Behring's Straits to Japan, is the printing press. It is the exponent of social, political, and scientific thought; the mirror the journalist holds up to human nature, in which mankind may see its own perfect reflection. The growth of this vast power, during the past few years, has been enormous, and the development of class journalism has been one of the signs of the times. No party or section of the State regards itself as upon a footing of perfect equality with its rivals until it is fairly and ably represented by an organ devoted to its interests and inspired by its policy. Nor is it alone in the fruitful field of politics that journalism has developed in a way that was undreamed of when Leigh Hunt and Cobbett suffered for the free expression of opinion. Parties that are not political, social coteries, theological sectaries, and the *savans* of the world of science, have each its more or less able representative and its staff of writers, who, so to speak, hold briefs for their clients, and plead their cause before the bar of public opinion.

The Freemasons, who wield so vast and beneficent an influence over society, have hitherto neglected to use the press for the purposes of the Craft. They have been inadequately represented by journals, which have failed to obtain the confidence of the great mass of the members of the Order. This, indeed, is not surprising, when it is remembered that the so-called organs of Freemasonry, whatever other merits they may possess, have been singularly weak in the literary department of journalism. Freemasonry includes within its ranks the most cultivated intellects of the day, and any paper which aspires to be the exponent of the Fraternity must, at all events, endeavour to keep pace with the growing requirements of an age remarkable for its intellectual activity. The questions in which Masons are interested are numerous, and varied in their scope and range, and although politics and sectarianism have little direct influence upon a society which is based upon the broad principles of Benevolence and Charity, it is not the less true that there are times when the Fraternity finds itself brought into collision, from no fault of its own, with both political and religious forces. The recent retirement of the Marquis of Ripon from the ranks of Freemasonry has been brought about by the pressure of the Romish Church, which has always looked with suspicion upon the Brotherhood. In some of the European States Masonry has been seriously discouraged, under the absurd belief that its principles were antagonistic to social order and the independence of Government. So late as the middle of the last century it was discountenanced by the French Government and clergy, and in Spain and Italy it has generally been under the ban of the State. It should be the business of a journal devoted to the interests of the Order to attempt the removal of prejudices such as these, which, though they may have little perceptible influence upon the prosperity of the Fraternity, yet have the effect of preventing timid or ill-informed persons from enlisting under its banner. In an age when "Sociology" is demanding for itself a recognition and a place in the estimation of the public second only to that which is monopolised by political science, the Brotherhood may fairly claim to speak a word in season upon many social topics of general interest which, nevertheless, have little or no direct bearing upon the Craft. We are all learning that the points of contact between classes and institutions are innumerable, and that it is impossible for any section or class to ignore the claims or the convictions of the mass of society. Freemasons, who, in the sacred arcanum of the lodge, have long since solved the great problem of perfect and complete Toleration, have learned to regard the differences and the misunderstandings of the outer world in the light of their superior freedom. Men, indeed, often differ, not because they are radically opposed, but because they misunderstand each other. We venture to think that the occasional discussion of social questions, in a free and impartial style in the pages of a journal devoted to the interests of the Craft, cannot but be beneficial, and we shall attempt this portion of our task with the conviction that our efforts will be generally appreciated. The FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, the First Number of which we now have the pleasure of presenting to our readers, will endeavour to supply all that has hitherto been wanting in the existing Masonic organs. It will not only attempt to keep pace with the growing literary requirements of the day, but it will seek to exhibit the Order to the non-Masonic world divested of its technical details, and clothed in the garb of Charity and Brotherly Love. The questions of the hour, which exercise the minds of thoughtful men, will be handled freely and broadly, without any tinge of political or sectarian bias. The memoranda of Masonic gatherings which will appear from week to week, will be full and accurate; and as free interchange of opinion is one of the best signs of life and vigour in any society, ample scope will be given for Correspondence on topics of interest to the Order. We feel assured that our endeavours to found a journal worthy of the confidence of the Brotherhood will be widely appreciated and generally acknowledged. The staff of trained writers which has been engaged to contribute leading articles is composed of men who are well versed in Masonry, and who will be devoted to the advocacy of its best interests. In sending forth our First Number upon its high mission we have only to add that our labours are influenced by no mercenary considerations. Commercial success is indeed the foundation of the life of a Newspaper, and we shall seek to make the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE as prosperous as possible, but we will not permit our pages to degenerate into a mere trade circular, nor will we, for any immediate advantages, sacrifice or degrade the high principles of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, which

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henceforth shall shine before the world as our guiding stars. If we may venture upon a new rendering of words which recent events have made memorable, we will say here, once and for all, that we will be keen men of business, and will spare no effort, consistent with honour, to achieve commercial success; but first, and before all things, we will prove to our brethren and the world that we are FREEMASONS.

THE MASON: A GENTLEMAN.

MEMBERS of the Craft are, one and all, agreed as to the social, moral and religious advantages of Freemasonry. The Master Mason, whatever his creed or country, knows that his connection with the Institution has superadded to his other opportunities of becoming a good citizen, a rule of life which embraces all the blessings that lie scattered up and down the various beliefs into which the nations of the world are divided. He becomes assured that honour, virtue and benevolence are the qualities which should alone distinguish one class from another; and that within the sacred bond of brotherhood all good Masons are equal in the eyes of the Great Architect of the universe. Unfortunately, the outside or popular world, who have not entered the penetralia of the Craft, are apt to apply to its members the ordinary tests current in social life. Hence it is of vital importance to the Institution itself that all its members should be persons of blameless lives, and it is equally important that they should be possessed of that culture which distinguishes the gentle from the ungentleman. It seems to us quite possible that a brother may be a good, ordinary Mason, capable of fulfilling all the duties enjoined in the principles of brotherly love, relief and truth, and yet be wanting in that trained scholarship which, although it enhances the courtesies of life, is too often found along with a cold, cynical understanding. At the same time, we think it imperatively necessary that every Freemason should use his best endeavours to polish and refine his intellect. Indeed, we go further, frankly and fearlessly stating our opinion that no man should be chosen to hold office whose cultus will not enable him to do honour to the great and important duties of his station.

What passes behind the closed doors of a Masons' Lodge is sacred from all the world. The seal of secrecy is set upon the Mason's heart and upon his lips. His is not a creed of proselytism. His duty lies clear and straight before him. So to conduct his life, so to comport his actions, that all the outer circles of men may know he is one of a glorious band of brothers, pledged to lead pure, clean lives, to help the sick and needy, to speak and act the truth, of which his insignia are but the symbols. Seriously impressed with the sacred and secret character of the Craft, we, nevertheless, understand it to be well known that Freemasonry embraces a ritual which, for magnificence of declamatory composition, is perfect in its way. Our contention is, that such a ritual should, at all times, be entrusted to ministers in whose mouths it should lose none of its sonorous and impressive qualities. The calls to virtue and to loving kindness, the charges to acts of self abnegation and friendship, of the pure and beautiful love, where shame and passion have no place, should be uttered in tones where musical intonation hold a just rivalry with exactness of accent and perfect grammar. If it were otherwise, what would be the result? It seems to us it would be possible for men of imperfect education, but of fussy, pushing natures, on their entrance into a Lodge, to lose no opportunity of thrusting themselves forward, in season and out of season, until, with the energy which not seldom accompanies vulgar minds, they had obtained office in the teeth of fitter, but more modest brethren. It would be possible for such as these, backed by the power of the purse—which Freemasonry does not recognise, but which need not be left out of the calculation of probabilities—we say, it would be possible for such as these so to administer the duties, weakly entrusted to their keeping, as to drive from the field of local Masonic activity persons of greater culture and refinement. If such a state of things were possible it would be a pity. How much greater would be the pity, then, if there were introduced into the society of such persons, some neophite of superior mental advantages, who, shocked at the incongruity of the position, retired during the first stages of his enlightenment, and before all the magnificence of the system dawned upon his astonished sight. Surely these are possible harms it would be good to guard against. These, however, are misfortunes which, being confined to the Craft itself, might possibly pass unreproved, if not uncriticised; but there are greater than these. Let us take a suppositious case. We will suppose some Royal personage to be on a visit to a great provincial town. The Mayor and Corporation have exhausted their powers of invention in providing a variety of entertainments. There has been the inevitable concert in the Town Hall; the visit to local manufactories; the district Flower-show, and, indeed, the general round of mild dissipation proper to the occasion. At last it suggests itself to the provincial Grand Lodge that a monster Masonic Ball would give the very tone of liveliness desired, and, permission being granted for the use of clothing, the great work is set in motion. We will suppose all the preliminaries to have worked smoothly. The magnates of the county to have received and accepted invitations, and the eventful evening to have at length arrived. The brethren are assembled, ranging upward from the simple white kid and pale blue silk, to the purple and scarlet and gold; the collars and jewels we all aspire to obtain. Delicate girls and shrewd educated matrons are present, with keen eyes for all the pomp and whatever else may be visible. There are many expressions of pleased surprise that Lord So-and-So, or Mr. Nominato should be a Freemason, and in course of time, when matters have settled down somewhat, the question becomes bruited about, who is the Chairman, or President, or Master, as he is called, of the Local Lodge? Suppose it possible, in such an event, that it should become current this same Chairman, or President, or Master, is no other than a certain person who is notoriously deficient in culture; one, whose lapses in good breeding, and ignorance of the courtesies of society, are the common joke of the town. If such a thing were possible—we do not say it is—it would be a reproach to the Order of Freemasonry. We may be asked, would we place mere cultivation, and what are called manners, above sterling integrity and a good heart? Our answer would be that, in the affairs of ordinary life we should not do so, but we think all representative men should possess these ornamental attributes; and, just as an ignorant and vulgar man is out of place in the pulpit, in the senate, or in the town council, so he is out of place as the Officer of a Masons' Lodge. All men cannot, nor is it desirable they should be, Lord Chesterfields, but all men aspiring to represent institutions should be possessed of as much polite learning as will honour the position they hold. Certain Englishmen of the middle rank are too apt to despise what they somewhat contemptuously entitle manners, but we have the authority of the Laureate that "manners are not idle, but the proof of loyal nature and of noble mind."

We are particularly anxious to impress on our brethren of the Craft that THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE will never degenerate into the organ of carping criticism. There will be no attempt, in the interests of smartness or fine writing, to wield the glittering rapier of sarcasm against less gifted members of the body to which we are proud of belonging. At the same time we have an abiding belief in the good effects of honest outspoken opinion. It will be observed that we have carefully abstained from making the simplest direct charge. Our argument is that in becoming a Freemason a man does not abrogate one single responsibility which heretofore he owed to society, but that he takes upon himself new responsibilities to an ancient, venerable, and respectable corporation. That in his new position, if he aspire to the honours as well as the benefits open to him, it is imperatively necessary that he should make himself worthy of them. Nay more, that if a period should ever arrive when the picture we have drawn might appear a true one; when we should chance to see ignorance and vulgarity elevated to the seat of the teacher, it would be time for those who love the Craft to lift a warning voice. Certain of the ancient philosophers are said to have afforded instruction from behind a veil. The students heard the advice of the master, but they did not see his face. In that condition of learning many wise truths, kindly spoken, doubtless appealed to the intelligence of those who heard and comprehended. Pray that we may be no less fortunate.

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THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

OUR sole aim in establishing THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, is the promotion of those objects for which Freemasonry exists, and we believe we shall contribute in no small degree to the attainment of our purpose if we urge upon our readers, with all the power we can command, the claims of the various Masonic Institutions to their cordial sympathy and support. There are three such institutions, which derive their chief support from the general body of Masons throughout the United Kingdom. These are "The Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons," "The Royal Masonic Institution for Boys," and "The Royal Masonic Institution for Girls." To each of these three, in turn, it is our intention to allude at considerable length, with a view to placing before the whole body of the Craft a statement of their objects and the success which has, thus far, resulted from the efforts of their promoters and supporters. In doing this we shall necessarily traverse old ground, stating again old facts, and repeating old arguments; this, of course, is inevitable. In all classes, and among all orders of people, there exists, at all times, the same necessity for supporting aged and infirm people and widows as well as for promoting the education of the young. But, though the ground is old, it is, in the order of things, that the sphere of operations should be an ever-extending one. Applicants for admission into one or other of the Institutions above mentioned become more numerous every year; thus increased support places it in the power of the several directing bodies, either to extend the benefits to existing inmates of their several institutions, or to increase the number of beneficiaries. With these preliminary observations we pass at once to consider the objects and results of "The Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution," and to this we purpose confining our remarks on the present occasion.

"The Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution" was founded in the year 1842, at a Quarterly Communication held on 2nd March, during the Grand Mastership of His late Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, the Grand Lodge of England voting the sum of £400 per annum towards the granting annuities to aged or distressed Freemasons. The first election took place in May of the year following, when fifteen brethren were chosen to receive annuities, varying, according to age, from £10 to £30 per annum. In 1847 the Supreme Grand Chapter voted £100 as its annual contribution, and in June of the same year, at the first festival in aid of the funds, presided over by the then Grand Master, the late Earl of Zetland, a sum of over £800 was contributed. In 1849 a fund was established for the widows of Freemasons, to which Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter voted annual grants of £100 and £35 respectively. In this year also, the two Institutions were amalgamated, and became what it still remains, "The Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons," while at the same time a Sustentation Fund was established, for keeping the buildings in repair. To this latter fund Grand Lodge contributed £500, and by subsequent contributions this has now reached £1,000. Meanwhile, the annual grants of Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter have increased respectively to £800—£500 to the Male Fund, £300 to the Widows' Fund—in the case of the former; and £150 — £100 to the Male Fund, £50 to the Widows'—in the case of the latter. According to the Report presented at the last annual General Meeting of the Governors and Subscribers, held at Freemasons' Hall, on 15th May 1874, the accounts for the year ended 31st March 1874 presented the following aspect. Male Fund:—Receipts (including a balance on 31st March 1873 of £3,201 11s 1d), £8,517 7s 9d; Disbursements (including £1,500 invested on deposit), £6,170 2s 4d, leaving a balance of £2,347 5s 5d. Female Fund; Receipts (including balance on 31st March 1873 of £1,739 11s 11d), £5,436 11s 5d; Disbursements (including £1,500 invested on deposit), £4,505 12s 9d; balance £930 18s 8d. Thus the total balance on the two funds combined amounted to £3,278 4s 8d. On the Sustentation of Building Fund Account, there was a balance due to treasurer of £7 6s 11d, the expenditure amounting to £78, against receipts (including a balance of £40 13s 1d brought forward from previous year) £70 13s 1d. From the same report we gather that the permanent income of the Institution, is as follows:—Male Fund, £1,306 10s 6d, consisting of £500 and £100 from Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter respectively, and £706 10s, 6d, being interest on £23,700 invested in Government Funds; Female Fund, £773 7s 6d, viz., Grand Lodge, annual grant, £300; Grand Chapter, ditto £50; interest on £14,200 in Government Funds, £423 7s 6d. Sustentation of Building £30, being interest on £1,000 Government Stock. Total permanent income £2,109 18s.

So far as to the funds. As to the annuitants; these, for many years, were in the receipt of annuities varying according to age. In 1867 this system of classification was abolished, and all the annuitants were placed on an equal footing, each Brother receiving £26, and each widow of a Freemason £25 per annum. These annuities have since been increased, so that each male annuitant is now in receipt of £36 per annum, each female of £28. This increase alone entails an addition to the expenditure of £1,396 yearly. As to the number of annuitants; there have been elected, since the foundation of the Institution, 392 brethren, and 174 widows of Freemasons. In the month of December of last year there were 120 brethren, in receipt of £4,320; 88 widows, in receipt of £2,464; and 15 widows at half their deceased husbands' annuities, receiving among them £240. In short, the inmates, male and female, are receiving £7,024 during the year.

It will be seen, from the foregoing figures, that while the permanent income of the Institution amounts only to £2,100, the expenditure during the last financial year amounted to close on £7,676. Thus a sum of £5,500 has to be raised "to maintain it only in its present state of usefulness." At the annual general meeting, held on 28th January 1874, under the presidency of the Right Honourable Lord Waveney, P.G.M. for Suffolk, in response to the very earnest appeal made by his Lordship, contributions were announced to the amount of £5,220. Considering, however, that Freemasons include among their number very many men of eminent position, commanding influence, and great wealth; considering, too, the number of members belonging to the Craft, it is clearly possible that this amount, munificent as it is, should be exceeded. And not only so, but with a more extended support among the whole of the Craft, we are convinced that further funds might be raised without difficulty, and thus enable the authorities of The Benevolent Institution to extend its benefits to an even greater number of aged brethren and widows.

It is said that a good Mason is essentially a good man. Active benevolence is certainly among the qualities which entitle a man to be called good. It is earnestly hoped, therefore, and we, in the interests of the Craft, shall unceasingly strive, by our advocacy, to secure that a greater amount of support may be obtained for this excellent Institution. And this increased support, we feel confident, will be forthcoming, if only the several Lodges, Chapters, and individuals composing the grand body of Freemasons throughout the United Kingdom will bestir themselves still more energetically. A grand object is promoted by supporting an asylum for our aged brethren and the widows of brethren, an object only to be gained, however, by—to use a familiar phrase—"a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull altogether."

We may add, before dismissing the subject of this Institution for the present, that the next Annual Festival will be held on Wednesday the 27th instant, under the presidency of the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, P.G.M. for Staffordshire; and we trust the appeal that will be then made to the general body of Masons will produce results greater even than in any previous year.

To the other Masonic Institutions named in our opening paragraph it will be our duty, as it will be with pleasure, to refer, at length, in future issues.

THE YEAR 1874.

WHEN some true and impartial chronicler shall dare to record the history of the closed year, that register of events will be a study for the world. The crimes, numerous, brutal and revolting, that were committed in 1874 will seem to show that, with all our boasted civilisation, various causes were at work to sap the foundations of our national morality, and to some extent

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threatening to destroy the Christian character of the empire. These facts should awaken in the minds of every patriot, Christian, philosopher, statesman and philanthropist the stern necessity of making every intellectual and moral effort to ascertain the reason why this demoralising exhibition should have to be made. These mournful truths should be treasured by all. The classes of society which have light and knowledge are bound, by every moral tie, to communicate them to the weak and fallen. Our present social barriers and distinctions, in so far as they restrict sympathy, and substitute the spirit of caste, the bigotry of rank, for the spirit of humanity, for reverence of our common nature, ought to be reprobated as gross violations of the Christian law. Here then are facts for reflection and thoughts for discussion.

Another remarkable phase in the history of 1874 is its Ecclesiastical character. No contest for creeds of faith and forms of worships has assumed, in Germany, Italy, England, Spain and France, for centuries, such a gigantic struggle as that which is now being waged as to which shall reign predominant, the Church or the State. There is no doubt that the time is coming when the human intellect will pierce into new mines, and view itself and its Creator and the universe from new positions. It may be some time yet before the intolerant sectarian will acknowledge his duty to admit every truth, however much it may war with his pride of intellect, his personal ambition, or his pecuniary gain, but the tide of intellectual thought and the elevating power of moral force will break down that of any spiritual despotism, and every true Christian will long for that time when each sect shall abandon its prison-house creed, and unite for the emancipation of the world from sin and suffering. Then will the face of the earth be changed, and "Countless Edens be scattered o'er the land glittering another nature and a new mankind."

As to the political position of the country, so far as government by party is concerned, all has been reversed. The end of the Session 1873 left Mr. Gladstone as Prime Minister, in the apparent possession of a large majority, but symptons of discord and disunion had been manifested by several sections of the Liberal party, and it did not require a very large amount of prescience to perceive that the days of the Gladstonian Administration were numbered. The crisis came in January 1874, when it was evident that the Premier was about to retire from the headship of his party. Parliament was summoned to meet early in February, and almost at the moment of the intended meeting notice was issued of a dissolution. Consequently, the country was unexpectedly thrown into agitation by a general election. The result of this appeal to the public gave to the Conservative party a really working majority, and placed the Right Honourable Benjamin Disraeli at the head of the Government. The new Parliament, the twenty-first of the United Kingdom, was constituted on 5th March. The Lords Commissioners sat in the House of Peers, and the Commons were requested to elect a Speaker, a choice which fell upon Mr. Brand, the former "whip" of the Liberal party. The usual congratulations were offered to the Speaker, writs for the election of new members were issued for ministers who had taken office; the process of oath-taking then followed, and the House was adjourned to 19th March, when the Queen's Speech was read in the House of Lords. It was stated that all foreign relations were friendly; reference was made to the marriage of the Duke of Edinburgh; the termination of the Ashantee war was referred to, and regret expressed in regard to the prevalent drought and consequent famine in India. In regard to future measures; the Transfer of Land, the re-arrangement of the Courts of Judicature, the Relationship of Master and Servant, the Licensing Question and its previous bills were foreshadowed as subjects of discussion and enactment. In the House of Lords the Marquis of Lothian moved, and the Earl of Cardigan seconded the address, and the same was respectively moved and seconded in the Commons by Sir W. Stirling Maxwell and Mr. Callender. Ninety-six statutes were passed during the Session; many of them being more of private interest than for the welfare of the general public.

Of the remarkable events of the year, may be mentioned the reception of Sir Samuel and Lady Baker, by the Municipality of Brighton, on their return from Central Africa; the sentence of the Lord Chief Justice on the Claimant, that he should be placed in penal servitude for fourteen years; the remains of Dr. Livingstone being brought to London; the landing of the Emperor of Russia in England; the opening of the Chelsea portion of the Thames Embankment; the opening of Dr. Parker's City Temple, on the Holborn Viaduct; the completion of the Submarine Telegraph Cable between Constantinople and Odessa; the celebration of the twenty-eighth anniversary of the Pope's accession to the Pontificate; the attempted assassination of Prince Bismarck; the death of some of our leading journalists; the resolve of her Majesty's Government to send an expedition to the North Pole; the escape of Marshal Bazaine; the death of the Siamese Twins; the close of the Lincolnshire Farm Labourers' Dispute, and a long list of sad railway accidents.

This eventful year closed with one of the most fearful and fatal catastrophes of modern times, the burning at sea of the emigrant ship "Cospatrick," when four hundred and seventy-three of our fellow creatures were sent to their final account. Wives, husbands, children and friends were doomed to perish. The sad remembrance of this great and wide-spread calamity, has cast a gloom over the nation, and has made so solemn an impression upon every thoughtful and sensitive mind that the idea of calling this a happy new year seems out of place when we reflect upon the bereaved families and the desolate hearths of so many of our countrymen. Let one universal prayer for generous sympathy and material aid be responded to, and as far as human power can be made to console the survivors let it be made. No holier recognition of this festival of love is possible than to remember the widow and the fatherless.

A FEW WORDS ON AMERICAN MASONRY.

AMERICAN Masons are not slow to claim for their country the distinction of being pre-eminently a Masonic nation. Considered from a numerical point of view, they have apparently good and substantial grounds whereon to found such claim. The relative proportion the Masonic body bears to the population of the United States will compare favourably with that of any country on the globe. The jurisdiction of the Grand Lodges of the two States—New York and Pennsylvania—embraces a larger brotherhood than the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland combined. However, it can no more be denied than it can be excused, that there are thousands, unrecognised, professing affiliation with the great Brotherhood throughout the Union, who have no more right so to do than they would have to proclaim themselves kings by divine right. Quantity is one thing, quality another. The loose and careless workings of the Lodges, the general laxity and discipline, the reckless disregard of ancient landmarks, and the abuses and prostitutions of Masonry, have long been a standing reproach to our Transatlantic brethren, and a cause of regret to every true and zealous member of our Ancient Brotherhood throughout the world.

There was a time in the history of the country when Masonry involved popular, social and religious disgrace. Perhaps it is not generally known that Wm. H. Seward, whose counsels guided the helm of state, and inspired the foreign policy of the American Government during the most eventful period of its history, first came into note during the great anti-Masonic agitation, and, on the strength of that absurd fanaticism, gained his first step on the political ladder; and perhaps it is not generally known that in after-life he was as outspoken in his advocacy, as in youth he was in his condemnation of "an Order which won the regard and approval of Washington, Franklin, Jefferson, Jackson and Clinton, among others of its good, great, worthy and illustrious Craftsmen." To quote the words of a prominent American advocate of Masonic reform,—"in those days Masonry meant something more than brass emblems and showy trappings, fancy oratory and poetic ritual;" as, indeed, it does now to him who is first prepared in his heart to become a Mason. It is a subject of congratulation, however, to every true lover of his Craft to see that the tidal wave of reform and regeneration, social and political, through which our brethren beyond the sea have recently passed extends its influence even to the floor of the Lodge, and already there are evidences of a powerful movement among the Fraternity towards the formation of a party whose watchword is to be—Purification. So mote it be.

At no period in the career of the Republic were the

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wonderful advantages and beautiful workings of "the mystic tie" brought so prominently and forcibly to public attention as during the great civil war, since when the popularity of Masonry has caused it to be flooded with new members, and the immense influx of neophytes has consequently created a multiplication of Masonic bodies. The question is, has there been a proportionate amount of zeal, devotion, or true Masonic culture? The great need of the hour, in addition to that of reform, is the substitution of thorough and efficient measures for the education of the brethren. True, the literature of Masonry has been enriched by the learning and labours of a few devoted Craftsmen. American contributions to Masonic literature are too valuable and important to be passed unheeded. America is entitled to as high a rank for her Mackey, Pike, Simons and a score of others, as can be claimed by Masonic *literati* of any other nation or time. But, to use the words of an eminent P. G. M., "while the fountains have been full and ample, can it be said that the river has swollen and broadened as it should have done?" Foremost among the Masonic students and writers of the century is Dr. Albert G. Mackey, who has devoted his life and learning—his wonderful knowledge of ancient historical and Eastern lore—to the elucidation of Masonry; and yet, after three years of unrequited labour, recent advices from America state that he has been compelled to abandon the publication of the *National Freemason*, a journal universally acknowledged to be one of the most scholarly and useful periodicals the Craft has ever had the opportunity of sustaining. Dr. Mackey will be best known to posterity as the author and compiler of *Mackey's Masonic Encyclopædia*, the most thoroughly reliable and exhaustive work of its kind in existence, and the result of fifty years' experience, study and research.

There are many sides from which to consider American Masonry, and undoubtedly, while arrogating to ourselves a more discreet and careful carrying out of the precepts and sublime teachings of the great Order, we see much in the labour of our Transatlantic brethren to disapprove and condemn; they have many belongings which might with profit be expatiated on for our benefit and example. There is one point, however, we would like to see light thrown upon. No country is more lavish of outlay on Masonic architecture, witness the magnificent Temples of Boston, Philadelphia and New York; in fact, in nine-tenths of American towns and cities the Masonic Hall is, *par excellence*, *the* hall. No country is more ostentatious of parade, glitter, show, and extravagance, *vide* accounts of Masonic inaugurations, processions, and celebrations. Yet, where are the Masonic Charities, Benevolent Institutions, Widows' Fund, Orphans' Home, and Schools? Echo answers—would it be possible for an echo to reach us from across the Atlantic?

CORRESPONDENCE.

All Letters must bear the name and address of the Writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

THE MASONIC CHARITIES.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR,—It was with feelings of pleasure that I perused the circular announcing the publication of your paper, for I feel sure there are many things in the Masonic World (as in most others), which will bear modification, if not improvement.

One point to which I would direct attention is, the disposal of funds collected at the several Lodges amongst the three charities connected with the Order. I have in many instances noticed what might almost be termed jealousies on this matter, and, as a remedy, would suggest that the subscriptions from the members should be divided according to some previously arranged rate, which might I think, be settled by the officers of the three charities themselves. I feel sure that the adoption of some such scheme would meet with the approbation of the majority of the Masons of this country.

Of course I intend that the above remarks shall not in any way interfere with private donations, but only with funds collected *generally* in the various Lodges.

Wishing you success,

I am, yours, &c. M. J.

REVIEWS.

Oliver's Masonic Jurisprudence; a New Edition. Edited by Walter Spencer, Esq., F.R.G.S. London: Spencer. 1874.

THIS admirable work, which has become an indispensable handbook of Freemasonary to those who desire to acquire a knowledge of the Craft, has just undergone a thorough revision, under the editorial care of Mr. Spencer, than whom no one is more qualified for the task of seeing it through the press. The information contained in the volume has been brought down to the present time, and much valuable assistance has been obtained from eminent Masons learned in the laws and customs of the Craft. No young aspirant for Masonic honours should be without a copy of the work. In its pages the neophyte will find ample tuition in the principles and laws of Masonry, and if he supplements the Lodge instruction he receives with a course of reading in Mr. Oliver's agreeable pages, he will soon qualify himself for office. The author spared no pains to make the work a perfect reflex of the principles of Masonry. His legal knowledge will scarcely be questioned by any brother, however experienced he may be in the Craft, and the remarks on ceremonials are as full of hints and suggestions as possible. The first portion of the work, which deals with Craft Lodges, will enable the young and inexperienced Mason to obtain a clear idea of the nature of the vast and complex organization of the institution of which he has become a member. He will find that Masonry is based upon Science; that its principles are immutable, but that within itself it has infinite capacity for growth and progress. He will learn that he is an apprentice to a Craft, the mysteries of which have been handed down through long ages of the storied past by the Master Minds who built the world's greatest monuments. Nor is it the novice only who may obtain valuable hints from these learned pages. Many of our brethren who have long been members of the Craft may glean much useful information from them. Too many amongst us, we fear, are content to settle down into a condition of apathy after they have once passed the mysterious portals of the Lodge. They have gratified an ambition, laudable, indeed, as far as it goes, and, having been enrolled in the ranks of Masonry, they care little for its responsibilities or its honours. Such men might, with advantage, spend an occasional leisure hour in the society of Mr. Oliver, and if his manifest enthusiasm in the cause cannot inspire something of a like kind in the breast of the apathetic brother, his case is desperate indeed. Some of our Lodge jurists, too, would probably be the better for an occasional refresher of the memory. We do not mean to say that our advisers are ever incompetent, but the best Masonic lawyer may sometimes make a slip, and it would be better for his credit that he should have Oliver's Jurisprudence at his fingers' ends rather than run the risk of being tripped up by the Lodge Instructor, who is sure to spring our author, like a mine, upon the blunderer.

The various sections of the work are set out with great clearness and care, and the necessary steps, from the creation of a new Lodge to the office and privileges of the Worshipful Master, are carefully traced. The ceremonial is judiciously sketched, leaving, of course, much unsaid which can only be learned in the Temple of Masonry. The laws relating to candidates are fully discussed, and the rules to be observed at initiations are thoroughly sound and practical. Every apprentice, who is worth his salt, naturally desires to acquire the status of a Fellow Craft, and our author gives full information relative to degrees of Masonic progress; judicious hints upon the qualification questions, and the passing of the novice to the supreme grade. The same may be said of the remarks concerning the status of a Master Mason, and on costume he is luminous in a high degree. Lodge discipline and instruction are dwelt upon as fully as their importance deserves, and the status and privileges of each of the officers, from the Tyler to the Worshipful Master, are carefully laid down. Nor are the laws of debate forgotten, and these, which are in principle the same as those which govern all well conducted deliberative assemblies, are full and accurate. Indeed, as we said at starting, the work is a complete handbook of Masonry, and if our space permitted we might dwell at length upon any of the important sections of the work at which we have only had time to glance. In a few days we may again return to the subject, and follow the author through the various grades of the Purple and Crimson Lodges.

MAGAZINES OF THE MONTH.

FIRST NOTICE.

Blackwood, perhaps as a token of respect for the gay and festive season of Christmas, eschews politics, and wisely confines itself to matters of a less serious character. The first contribution is the opening portion of a story entitled Giannetto. The hero is a mute, who, in some mysterious way, gains power of speech, and soon after re-appears on the scene as Signor Giovanni, the deservedly popular *primo tenore*. There is a somewhat quaint (in style, at least) effusion entitled "Idus: an Extravaganza," the chief merit of which

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is its Aristophanic mode of treatment. Mr. Martin's earlier portion of the life of H.R.H the late Prince Consort is also favourably reviewed. The two serials, "Alice Lorraine" and "Valentine and his Brother," are continued from the previous number, but we judge them to belong to that sterling class of novel which we look for in the pages of magazines.

The subject of the "Greville Journals" is also handled in *Temple Bar*, but the writer's criticism, even if meant as a joke, is, to say the least, eminently unsatisfactory. But there is plenty of readable matter in this magazine notwithstanding. We need only mention "Bulwer and Dickens," in which the merits of these eminent writers are contrasted together, and "Henri de la Rochijacquelin," in confirmation of this view.

The *Argosy* is fortunate in numbering such a writer as Johnny Ludlow among its contributors. His pathetic story of Charles Van Rheyn, is admirably written. The opening chapter of the new novel, "A Secret from the Sea," by the author of "In the Dead of Night," recently concluded, bids fair to rival its predecessor in this class of sensational writing. The Editor's contribution is the first two chapters of a new Serial, "Parkwater," from which we anticipate much agreeable occupation for many months to come, during the long winter evenings, or when the leisure hour is not infrequent.

All the Year Round contains, in addition to its usual quantum of excellent matter, the Christmas story—"The Opal Ring." This latter, we strongly recommend to the notice of our readers, who will like it amazingly.

We have received copies of *Whitaker's Almanack* and *Blackwood's Scribbling Diary*, both works of such recognised value, for every office, that we need hardly refer at length to them. The former is now recognised as an invaluable book of reference on general and commercial subjects.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY NEWS.

FRIDAY.

As usual on New Year's Day, the Stock Exchange has been closed, although not recognised as a "Bank Holiday." No transactions in the stock or share markets have therefore been going forward, but at the close of the fortnightly settlement, on Wednesday, the tone was decidedly on an improving scale. Many enquiries also being made for securities hitherto but little appreciated.

At this period of the year, when the investment of money is occupying the attention of those who are benefitted by the payment of the various dividends, it may not be out of place to offer a few words of advice on the subject, taken from the *Money Market Review*. The judicious investment of money is by no means an easy matter, even to those well acquainted with the various securities dealt in on the Stock Exchange, and to many people it is an affair attended with considerable trouble and anxiety. With people whose knowledge of the various securities is very limited, and those probably include the majority of investors, the selection of a stock that exactly meets their requirements is a very unsatisfactory and uncertain process; there may be a tolerably distinct idea as to what is wanted in an investment. But there is very little knowledge to enable those stocks which fulfil the required conditions to be picked out. An investor, for example, may desire to obtain a certain rate per cent. of return for his money, and, at the same time, he may require that the safety of the stock shall be up to a specified standard, that the stock itself shall be in a fixed form, that is to say either in a registered form, or in bonds to bearer; that it shall be redeemable or irredeemable (as the case may be), that there shall be no liability attaching to it, and that it may be of such a character that he may be able from time to time, to obtain correct information respecting its position and progress. An investor may have a desire that the stock he selects shall possess these or some special features, and still he may be uncertain, after he has bought, whether he has actually obtained them. Although the features and characters of the different stocks are very numerous, there are, nevertheless, certain combinations of these points which are not attainable in any individual stock. It is necessary, therefore, for a buyer to mould his requirements according to the conditions of some one or other of the different classes. As regards the rate of interest, more especially, he will be obliged, as a matter of course, to limit his requirements according to the degree of safety he is prepared to accept. But an intending buyer, having before him a concise statement of the general character and features of the different classes of securities, would be able in the first place, to select the class; and in the second place, the individual stock from that class, which most nearly meets his requirements. There are other points beyond the mere selection of stock which ought to be attended to if it be desired to make a profitable investment; and amongst these are,—to choose the right time for buying, not to hold too much of any one stock, and to sell occasionally certain stocks, and re-invest the proceeds in others. In the case of speculative investments, by which is meant those offering to the holder more than 5 per cent., there are special precautions to be observed in order to render the outlay profitable. These are; first, to reserve a certain proportion of the interest received as a fund of insurance against losses; and, secondly, to sell a stock when it falls in market price to a certain level, from causes affecting its intrinsic value.

After the completion of the fortnightly settlement on Wednesday, the markets gave signs of further recovery; inquiries extending to some descriptions of securities hitherto but little noticed. The English Funds have been steady, and the tendency generally is towards higher prices.

The directors of the Bank of England met yesterday, but made no alteration in the rate of discount, notwithstanding that there is a falling off in the reserve since last week.

Prices in the English Railway Market have taken an upward turn, and values continue to be fairly supported, the only exception to the otherwise favourable character of the proceedings being a further fall in Great Western Stock, due to the apprehension that the Company may be called upon for heavy damages on account of the late terrible accident on the line.

Foreign stocks have advanced to a moderate extent, the principle demand being for Egyptians, the rise in which is general. What effect the tidings of Don Alphonso's proclamation will have on Spanish finance remains to be seen—at any rate, it cannot be attended with worse consequences to the bondholders, who have just held a meeting, and decided to accept the terms lately made to them, which verges, we might almost say, on confiscation of their rights.

A demand has sprung up for American securities, Government Bonds among others, and the market holds firm.

In Telegraphs Anglo-Americans have been largely bought on speculative account, the failure of the Faraday expedition being looked upon as leaving the others free from competition for some time to come.

The ordinary general meeting of the Crystal Palace Company was held on Wednesday, when the report of the directors and the statement of accounts was adopted, and a resolution passed appointing a committee to inquire into the affairs of the Company, and to report to the shareholders the result of their labours.

There will be no reduction of fares to places at which the Midland and Great Western Companies compete. On other portions of the Midland system the reduced prices will come into effect on and after to-day. At the same time, several alterations of fares take effect on other lines. The Great Northern Company have issued a notice, stating that it is intended to extend the date of return on all tickets up to fifty miles, for seven days, and over that distance for a month.

The Directors of the National Provincial Bank of England have again voted a bonus of 10 per cent. to all their officers and clerks on their salaries for the past year.

In addressing a meeting of shareholders of the Alexandra Palace Company, a few days ago, the chairman gave an interesting account of the present position of the undertaking, and expressed himself perfectly satisfied with the progress that had been made with the new building, which the directors expected would be ready for opening early in the season of 1875. No fears were entertained as to their ultimate success, under the management of Sir E. Lee, a gentleman of great and successful experience in similar undertakings.

The following is from the monthly circular of Pim, Vaughan and Co., stock and share brokers:—"Neither financially or politically has the year just closed been an eventful one, and, compared with 1873, the Money Market has been quiet, although not without some features of interest. Our commercial requirements being on a diminished scale, the value of money would, undoubtedly, have ruled low, had it not have been for the drain of gold to Germany and France, which began to be seriously felt in the autumn, when an advance of the Bank rate to 4, and ultimately, in November, to 6 per cent., was found necessary in order to strengthen the Bank reserve, and protect our stock of bullion. This has corrected the Exchanges sufficiently to check the efflux and to bring gold in fair amounts to the Bank. The usual requirements at the close of the year prevent any important change just now in the position of the Money Market, but with the disbursement of the January dividends, a return to lower rates may be looked for, especially as large amounts are due here from abroad on foreign securities. But, of course, all depends on whether the flow of gold to France and Germany has been effectually stopped. They are scarcely likely, however, to persist in an operation which must be as expensive to them as it is profitable to the capitalists of this country, although very inconvenient to those in trade. During the past year, the extent of business in our Stock Markets has been on a fair average scale, gradually dwindling, however, towards the close, and on the whole, being considerably less than in 1873. English Government Stocks have ceased to excite public attention; none but a millionaire could live on the interest of Consols with the necessaries of life at present prices.

There are, probably, no home investments in such general favour as English Railway Stocks, but the changes during the past year have, in many cases, been unfavourable to holders; the "heavy goods" lines have suffered from the inactivity in trade, and prices, towards the close of the year, show rather a severe depreciation; some of the passenger lines, however, being an exception. During the past six months speculative operations were freely entered into for a fall, but, although based on fairly accurate calculations, prices held up on scarcity of stock, the fact being that, although holders may grumble at disappointing dividends, they, as a rule, feel too much confidence in the elasticity and soundness of their property to part with it. Just now there is considerable gloom over the market, not so much from unfavourable views as to coming dividends, but the effect of the competition started by the Midland Company, in the rearrangement of classes, and the probability of some Government restrictions, arising out of the many accidents during the year, Preference Stocks are becoming gradually scarcer, and stand at higher prices; as these become absorbed attention must be given to the Ordinary stocks of the leading companies by the same class of investors. Submarine Telegraphs have barely maintained their position, the most serious fall has been in Anglo, on the competition of the Direct United States Cable. Gas Shares show a very handsome rise, on the probability of their being absorbed by the Board of Works and Corporation of London. Insurance are dull, especially Marine, on the heavy losses by late series of disasters. A quiet business is done in English Mines, and, at times, the speculative Foreign undertakings attract attention, but all confidence has been lost in them, there being but little hope in their future. Tramways make but poor progress, the expense of horsing and keeping the tramways in repair being heavier than expected. Steam Navigation Shares still suffer from the high price of fuel. Cable Construction Companies, from comparatively unremunerative contracts, and Iron and Coal undertakings, in many instances, have proved that original valuations were based on exceptionally fortunate periods.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All Letters and communications must be addressed to the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, 67 *Barbican, London, E.C.*

We have received a letter from a correspondent, signed "An R.W.M., &c.," but unauthenticated by name and address. We cannot deviate from the well known rule, universally adopted by the press, that all letters must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

P. T. D., Birmingham.—Glad to hear from you; shall rely on you for next week.

THE DRAMA.

Retrospect of the Year—Shakspearian Revivals—Christmas Novelties.

IF we were asked to characterise in a single word the dramatic history of 1874, we would describe it as a year of experiments. On every hand a suspicion appears to have arisen amongst managers that the public had grown weary of their accustomed fare, and required a more than usually appetising *menu* to ensure a continuance of their patronage. All kinds of expedients have been adopted to tickle the tastes of playgoers, and in very few instances indeed have these been attended with more than a moderate degree of success. The latest *operas-bouffes*, fresh from the Parisian mint, melodramas of every conceivable variety, burlesques of the newest, and comedies of the oldest type, have all in turn sported their brief hours upon the stage, to little or to no avail. Theatres like the Gaiety and the Prince of Wales's, which for years past have pursued a beaten track, certain of the world's approbation, have been compelled to resort to new devices to retain the good will of their clients, whilst not a few theatrical houses, such as the Queen's, and the Sadler's Wells, are believed to have retired from the profession altogether. It has been a year of doubt and half-heartedness on the part of managers, characterised by few absolute failures, and by still fewer triumphs.

A glimpse at the list of new plays produced during the year, shows that about one-half of those brought out at the West-end Theatres were burlesques, extravaganzas or *operas-bouffes*. Of these, some two or three were not without literary merit, and one, *Les Près St. Gervais*, produced not long since at the Criterion, will probably be heard of again. The rest, in respect of humour, invention, fancy or point of any description would compare disadvantageously with the entertainments of a country fair. Their chief, and often their sole merit, lies in the music, which, though not of a very high order, or, indeed as a rule, very original, usually comprises some light and catching melodies. In this category we fear we must class the burlesque of *Blue Beard*, produced in the autumn of the year at the Charing Cross Theatre. Strange to say, however, this has proved one of the two or three great successes of the year, and may be said, for some months past, to have divided the attention of the town with the Lyceum *Hamlet*. The reasons of this extraordinary popularity are not far to seek. Miss Thompson, the manageress, is one of the very few genuine burlesque actresses upon the stage, and, what is still more important, she really believes in burlesque. A capital dancer, with a correct taste for scenic effect, and an abundance of animal spirit, she has collected around her some of the best burlesque talent to be had, and by dint of frequent rehearsals, secured an amount of cohesion, and apparent *esprit de corps* amongst the company, that the absurdities which abound in the play fly off like the bubbles of Champagne, and leave behind just that amount of mild exhilaration which seems to be the desideratum in modern dramatic entertainments. Mr. Lionel Brough, as the hero, introduces some funny "gags," and his "business" throughout is of a most comic character: whilst Mr. Edouin, in the Heathen Chinee, gives a character new to the London stage, and delightful in its humorous eccentricity.

Of the more serious productions of the year, perhaps the two most worthy of notice are *Lady Clancarty* and *The Two Orphans*, both of which were brought out at the Olympic. The first, an original historical play, by Mr. Tom Taylor, has an exciting melodramatic plot, some fine situations, and two or three excellent parts. These qualities will probably secure for the drama a certain degree of popularity, but they will hardly obtain for it a place in the permanent literature of the country. The other play, *The Two Orphans*, produced in September last, is a translation, by Mr. John Oxenford, of *Les Deux Orphelines* of Messrs. D'Ennery and Cormon, brought out at the Parisian Porte-St.-Martin a short time previous to that date. It is a play full of incident, crime and intrigue, powerfully conceived, and elaborated with great dramatic vigour. The interest it excites, moreover, is genuine and well sustained. The plot circles round the persons of a beautiful blind girl and her sister, cast without protection upon the wilderness of Paris, and separated from each other at an early period of the play. The adventures of the two are admirably portrayed, and some striking phases of Parisian life are revealed in the representation. Another adaption of the same piece, by Messrs. Paul Meritt and George Conquest, was produced at the Grecian in October, under the title of *The Blind Sister*, and was moderately successful.

The Haymarket Theatre has produced a fair number of novelties during the year, but none of them have achieved more than an *succès d'estime*. *Charity*, by Mr. W. S. Gilbert, was perhaps the most successful of these; *Queen Mab*, by Mr. Godfrey, being but an indifferent imitation of the Robertsonian comedy; *Mont Blanc*, an inartistic adaptation of *Le Voyage de M. Perrichon*; whilst *A Madcap Prince*, by Robert Buchanan, though by no means devoid of merit, was hardly of a character to win any great amount of popularity, and was moreover produced at an unfortunate time of the year. The most successful venture of all, has been the revival of the evergreen *Our American Cousin*, with Mr. Sothern in his famous character of Lord Dundreary. In spite of all the adverse criticisms bestowed at different times upon this play, it has still sufficient vitality to draw crowded audiences whenever it is performed; and at the present time we doubt if the whole of the metropolis can boast of another theatrical performance which will afford the same amount of thorough seasonable enjoyment.

The Prince of Wales's Theatre has never quite recovered from the loss it sustained in the death of Mr. Robertson, and, during the past year, it has experienced a number of vicissitudes. It has, in the first place, lost the services of its most talented actor, Mr. Hare; in the second place, having, for a time at least, exhausted the popularity of *Caste*, *School* and *Ours*, the management have been induced to attempt a higher and older order of comedy, and the successful production of *The School for Scandal*, in the spring of the year, more than justified their determination. Later still, it was announced that *The Merchant of Venice* would be given, but here some difficulty arose, and the idea was abandoned. At the present time a very pleasant bill of fare is afforded by Mr. Robertson's *Society*, and a new two-act comedy by Mr. W. S. Gilbert, entitled *Sweethearts*. This comedy exhibits Mr. Gilbert's powers as a dramatist in their most favourable light, for Mr. Gilbert is weak in the elaboration of a plot, and here there is none at all; whilst the dialogue is in Mr. Gilbert's happiest vein. The comedy consists of two tableaux; the first in the spring of 1844, the second in the autumn of 1874; in the one, two lovers, full of affection for each other, part under a misconception; in the other, the lovers meet again, after a lapse of 30 years, the lady still cherishing her old affection, whilst the man finds a difficulty in recalling even the name of his former sweetheart. The two parts are admirably sustained by Miss Wilton and Mr. Coghlan.

The Vaudeville, like the Prince of Wales's, has been all the year in want of an author. Mr. Albery, who promised so well in his *Two Roses*, has been deficient in the necessary application to follow up his success. His two productions of the year, *Wig and Gown* at the Globe, and *Pride* at the Vaudeville, have both been sadly wanting in originality and finish. Recently the managers of the Vaudeville have revived *The Two Roses*, Mr. Thorne being the only member of the original cast remaining in the company, and some capital houses have proved that the old favourite has still the power to charm.

The most important dramatic event of the year has unquestionably been the revival of *Hamlet* at the Lyceum. Whatever opinion may be held as to the capabilities of Mr. Irving as an actor of tragedy, there can be no doubt whatever of his intense earnestness in whatever part he undertakes. Whether it be a character like Digby Grant, in which the interest is entirely of the nature of comedy, or in parts like Eugene Aram and Mathias, which are essentially tragic, the personality of the actor is, for the time being, completely merged in the character he is pourtraying. Some trifling mannerisms may, and do, appear in his impersonations, but these are only superficial idiosyncrasies, and do not, to any appreciable extent, mar the general effect of his performances. His reading of the character of *Hamlet* is intelligent and scholarly, and his bearing throughout that of a gentleman, and a man of rank. But the great charm of his impersonation lies in its thorough genuineness. Every incident in the play appears to be acutely realised by the actor, and not a line or word is allowed to fail of its appropriate effect. The play, moreover, does not rest entirely on Mr. Irving. Mr. Chippendale as Polonius, and Mr. Compton as the Gravedigger, may be said to divide equally with Mr. Irving the chief merits of the performance; whilst Mr. Swinburne in the part of the King, Mr. G. Neville as Horatio, and Mr. Mead as the Ghost, are each of them well chosen for their respective *rôles*. The female parts, unfortunately, are not so well filled, but Miss Pannocfort is not without a certain amount of power as the Queen. This revival is one of the few dramatic events of the year that we can look back upon with satisfaction.

The Gaiety Theatre, after having run its usual course of modern comedy, comedy drama and *opera-bouffe*, without making any great stir amongst the playgoing public, has also made an attempt at the legitimate, by producing, with an exceptionally strong cast, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. Mr. Phelps sustains the character of Falstaff, and Mr. Vezin that of Ford; whilst Mrs. John Wood as Mrs. Page, Miss Rose Leclercq as Mrs. Ford, and Miss Furtado as Anne Page, play parts for which they are severally well suited, and in a more than respectable manner. Perhaps after all it will be found, notwithstanding the assertion of Mr. Chatterton, that Shakspeare does not of necessity "spell ruin." We hope to give a more detailed notice of this performance on a future occasion; but in the meanwhile we cannot refrain from expressing our satisfaction that two London managers should have thought it politic to introduce "the immortal bard" once more to our notice.

The Christmas novelties are of the usual hackneyed type, *Aladdin*, and the Vokes troupe at Drury Lane, *The Babes in the Wood* at Covent Garden, *Beauty and the Beast* at the Princess's, and *The Children in the Wood* at the Adelphi. At the Globe we have the Lydia Thompson troupe, late of the Charing Cross Theatre, with the burlesque of *Blue Beard*, now converted into a kind of amateur pantomime. The harlequinade is sustained by Miss Thompson, columbine, Mr. Beckett, harlequin, Mr. G. Barrett, pantaloon, and Mr. Edouin, clown, whilst Mr. Lionel Brough disports himself in the part of policeman. We cannot help thinking that the change is a mistake. The fun falls very flat, and lacks the heartiness and "go" of even an indifferent harlequinade of professionals. Mr. Brough will hardly improve his reputation by playing the part of a super. The audience too naturally expect a transformation scene in a pantomime, and are not likely to be satisfied with tableaux vivants as a substitute. *Du reste*—*Sinbad the Sailor* is the pantomime at the Holborn, *Aladdin*, with Miss Carry Nelson, at the Charing Cross, and *The Forty Thieves*, with the Payne, at the Surrey.

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THE THEATRES, &c.

COVENT GARDEN.—At 7.0, THE VIVANDIERE. At 7.45, THE BABES IN THE WOOD.

DRURY LANE.—At 7.0, TEN OF 'EM. At 7.30, ALADDIN.

HAYMARKET.—At 7.30, OUR AMERICAN COUSIN and THE LOAN OF A LOVER.

ADELPHI.—At 7.0, THE PRAYER IN THE STORM and THE CHILDREN IN THE WOOD.

PRINCESS'S.—At 7.0, LOST IN LONDON and BEAUTY AND THE BEAST.

LYCEUM.—At 6.50, FISH OUT OF WATER. At 7.45, HAMLET.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.0, TWENTY MINUTES WITH A TIGER. AT 7.30, THE TWO ORPHANS.

STRAND.—At 7.0, INTRIGUE. At 7.30, OLD SAILORS. At 9.15, LOO AND THE PARTY WHO TOOK MISS.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 7.45, SWEETHEARTS and SOCIETY.

GAIETY.—AT 7.0, BENGAL TIGER. At 8.15, MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR.

HOLBORN.—At 7.0, A HEROIC WOMAN. At 8.0, SINBAD THE SAILOR.

GLOBE.—At 7.0, A PRETTY PIECE OF BUSINESS. At 8.0, BLUE BEARD.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.0, LEGACY LOVE. At 7.45, TWO ROSES. At 10, ROMULUS AND REMUS.

CHARING CROSS.—At 7.30, THE LAUGHING HYENA. At 8.15, ALLADIN and THE SECRET.

OPERA COMIQUE.—At 7.0, WAR TO THE KNIFE. At 8.15, IXION RE-WHEELED.

COURT.—At 7.30, PEACOCK'S HOLIDAY. At 8.30, BRIGHTON.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.0, THE TWO BONNYCASTLES. At 7.45, WHITTINGTON.

CRITERION.—LES PRES SAINT GERVAIS, &c.

AMPHITHEATRE, HOLBORN.—At 7.0, CINDERELLA.

SURREY.—At 7.0, FORTY THIEVES.

PHILHARMONIC.—At 7.30, UP IN THE WORLD. At 8.0, GIROFLE-GIROFLA. At 9.20, Les Fantastiques Parisiennes, 10.40, The Dorcas, in their Comic French Pantomime.

ALEXANDRA, Park-street, Camden-town.—At 7.0, THE IRON CHEST. At 8.0, VALENTINE AND ORSON.

HENGLER'S CIRQUE.—At 2.30 and 7.30, LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD.

SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE.—At 2.0 and 7.0. ALADDIN AND THE WONDERFUL LAMP.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Open Daily, PANTOMIME, AQUARIUM, PICTURE GALLERY, &c.

POLYTECHNIC.—STAR WATCHING AND THE TRANSIT OF VENUS; THE MYSTIC SCROLL; CHYMICAL MARVELS; THE ISLE OF WIGHT AND ITS LEGENDS, CONJURING, &c. Open at 12.0 and 7.0.

EGYPTIAN (LARGE) HALL.—Dr. LYNN, at 3.0 and 8.0.

EGYPTIAN HALL.—MASKELYNE AND COOKE, at 3.0 and 8.0.

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67 BARBICAN, E.C.

WITH THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON.

OUR inauguratory number will hardly be complete, certainly not as complete as we are anxious to make it, if we do not convey to our readers, in as genial language as we can command, those cordial wishes which are deemed appropriate at this period of the year. We need not give lengthy utterance to these wishes, for no Englishman at this season, and assuredly no Mason at any season, ever experiences aught but the kindliest good feeling towards his fellow men. Indeed, the aim of Freemasonry is a sufficient guarantee that Masons, as regards both each other and the rest of the world, will enter heart and soul into the spirit of Christmas enjoyment. Nor will they content themselves with mere personal pleasure. Actuated by that fraternal regard, which has ever animated the whole Craft, both as a body and individually, they will take every care that those of their brethren who may, unhappily, be somewhat ill-circumstanced, shall not lack—at least, not wholly lack—the wherewith to cheer themselves in their present, and let us hope, their brief period of adversity. Charity—we use the word in its truest sense—suggests this duty. Masonic charity will fulfil it.

And the season we have recently entered upon has come upon us right genially, as in days of yore. For many a year past the jolly, rubicund visage of old Father Christmas has seemed a little less jovial than it was. Englishmen had almost begun to think he might perhaps have become less of the glorious good fellow than he is known to have been in the days of our sires and grandsires. But this year, at least, he has appeared in his true colours; his snow-white locks glistening again, just as he is pictured to us in old writings, and especially in the Christmas stories of the late Charles Dickens. We are not only in the present enjoyment of a rare prosperity; there is abundance of beef and pudding, wine and ale, wherewith to regale ourselves. There are parties and pantomimes, and all else, in fact, that may make the young rejoice, and the old recall the pleasant memories of their early days. We have, too, the snow and ice of the genuine old-fashioned winter, and this is no light matter for congratulation. True—and with sorrow we admit it—ice and snow entail much suffering among the sick and weakly, and the very young. Yet, somehow, the keenness of winter developes in us warmer feelings of regard for all men, and, moreover, a severe frost is usually regarded as the certain forerunner of a genial spring and a glorious summer. Thus, whether we rush forth by day into the keen but exhilarating air, or seek warmth at eventide by the blazing fireside, we have equal cause for congratulation. We not only rejoice in a present pleasure: we look forward likewise to, let us hope, the brighter year that is to come.

Unfortunately, we repeat in somewhat varied form, all is not pleasure now, or at any time. Too many a poor shelterless fellow creature succumbs to this more trying temperature. This Christmas, too, has been singularly distinguished above other Christmases by the number and severity of the catastrophes which have befallen so many English families. On Christmas morning, the papers contained accounts of no less than three terrible accidents, by which considerably more than one hundred families were overwhelmed with grief. A few days later brought us news of one of the most terrible disasters which ever befell English or other vessel. The "Cospatrick" emigrant ship, we were told, was burnt, and of nearly 500 persons three only are known to have been rescued, and will return to tell the fearful tale of suffering. Yet a few days later, and more accidents were recorded; and naturally all these come upon us with tenfold force at a time when we are anticipating little else than merriment and jollity.

We will not further dwell on this sadlier aspect of Christmas, save to make it subserve our purpose of urging on all classes of men, that a true enjoyment of Christmas pleasure is scarcely possible if they heed not the wants

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and sorrows of their less fortunate brethren. Christmas, when the year is almost departed, is the time when all that is best and kindliest in our natures should be in full and vigorous activity. It is the time when we overlook, or entirely blot out, old sorrows and ill-feeling, so that we may enter upon the year that is approaching with a conscience as free as possible from all reproach. To all our readers, then, in the spirit which has dictated these few remarks, we offer, in all kindness and good faith, our heartiest good wishes; or, to use the familiar form of expression, we wish them, one and all, the Compliments of the Season.

The Right Hon. The Lord Mayor, Bro. David Henry Stone (P.M.), No. 1 Grand Master's Lodge, and Past Grand Steward, has consented to preside at the annual Festival of the Girl's School, in May next. The Secretary, Bro. Robert Wentworth Little, will be pleased to receive the name of any brother who will consent to act as Steward. Application to be made at the Office, Freemason's Hall, Great Queen Street.

We regret to have to announce the sudden decease of Bro. Jesse Owens, on the 9th ult. He was initiated in the Finsbury Lodge, was P. M. of the Highgate Lodge, and W. M. of the newly consecrated High Wycombe Lodge, he was also a member of the Eton Lodge, 771, and P. S. Rose of Denmark Chapter. He was a good father, an affectionate husband, a firm and true friend. He was much devoted to Freemasonry, not only as regards the working of the ritual, but was zealous in the cause of the Masonic charities. His funeral took place on Wednesday the 16th Dec., at Highgate Cemetery, where, in addition to his sorrowing widow and two children, upwards of 60 brethren were present to testify the last tribute of respect to departed worth.

We also have to announce the death, which occurred on the 22nd ult., of Bro. Henry Edwards. Bro. Edwards was born at St. Albans, on 14th December 1803, and had resided there all his life. He was a member of the St. Albans Lodge, No. 678, and took an active part in the formation of the Halsey Lodge, consecrated last year. Bro. Edwards was universally respected in the district in which he resided, and his death, which occurred somewhat suddenly, has caused a deep feeling of regret among his numerous circle of friends.

We shall be glad to receive communication from any of our correspondents on the subject of the following queries, which have been addressed to us by an influential brother:—

1. Why are there two St. Johns recognised in Craft Masonry?
2. Why are they placed, one at the winter solstice, and the other at the summer solstice?
3. Is it to represent the two great principles of Light and Darkness, good and evil?
4. Can it be ascertained when lights were first adopted in Freemasons' Lodges, and have they any symbolic meaning that can be communicated?

We learn that Bro. Chalmers Izett Paton, a member of our Order, and Past Master of Freemason Lodges, both of the Scottish and English Constitutions, has been elected, by Protestants of Scotland, to the office of Grand Master of Scotland of the Orange Brotherhood, and was duly installed into this office on 18th December 1874. The following are a few of the remarks made by him in returning thanks at his installation:—

Brethren,—I thank you for the unexpected honour you have done me, in electing me to the highest position in the brotherhood, into which I have been installed as Grand Master of Scotland. I feel this to be an honour indeed, both on account of the numbers and character of those by whom I have been appointed to this office, and of the principles which they are combined to maintain, principles which it has been my delight to maintain, and which I trust I shall maintain more and more zealously to the end of my life. I am delighted to think that I have been proposed by the Grand Master now vacating the chair to fill the the office which he has filled so honourably for so many years, and that his motion for my election was seconded and unanimously agreed to; and I am sure, as I dare say you are all aware, none has the interest of the Order or the cause of Protestantism more deeply at heart than our now Past Grand Master. Brethren, allow me to say that I think we ought all to study the subject of Popery more than we have done, so as to be able at any time to give an answer to Popish arguments. And I think also—I dare say you will agree with me—that we ought, as much as possible, to seek to bring into our brotherhood our fellow Protestants who are already conversant with this subject. It would be an increase of strength to us, and, I believe, also to them. I trust that God, in His grace, will enable me to rule over the brotherhood with zeal and wisdom—with zeal to protect all our rights and advance all our objects, and with wisdom to determine aright in all cases which may arise. I hope that I may be enabled to guide the brotherhood so that they may prove intelligent and zealous opponents of Popery and true Protestants, carefully keeping the laws of God, and duly obedient to the laws of the land, good Christians and loyal subjects. May God, in His grace, enable us to show ourselves Protestants, not only in name, but in reality, to live as becometh Christians, adorning the Gospel, walking by faith, fighting the good fight of faith, and rejoicing in hope; not mere controversialists, but humble and devout followers of Christ.

We have received a copy of the first number of *The Scottish Freemasons' Magazine*, which, singularly enough, makes its appearance in the field of journalism on the same day as ourselves. We heartily congratulate the Editor and his staff on their *début*. We are pleased to be in a position to offer our contemporary these brief congratulatory remarks, and we doubt not that he, on his part, will as heartily reciprocate this expression of mutual goodwill.

It will interest our readers to know that His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales received the 33rd degree on Saturday, 12th December 1874, and was formally installed as Patron of the Ancient and Accepted Rite. As Freemasonry is practised on the Continent of Europe, this degree was established by King Frederick the Great of Prussia, who was styled the Supreme Grand Protector of Freemasonry, and who, observing that many spurious rites had arisen from time to time in the Masonic Order, collected together what he and his counsellors, after much deliberation, declared to be the true degrees of Freemasonry, and united them in one body or order, which was to be "communicated to Masons in thirty-three degrees, divided into seven classes, through which every Mason must pass in regular succession before he could arrive at the highest." The large powers given by Frederick the Great to the 33rd degree did not, however, extend to Great Britain, where a Grand Lodge rules over the Craft Degrees, and where the "Thirty-third," while it distinctly recognises the authority of the Grand Lodge, in admitting no one to its Order unless previously made a Master Mason in some regularly constituted Lodge, claims and exercises no such powers as the same body does abroad. On arrival at the Masonic Hall, His Royal Highness was escorted into the Council Chamber by the Earl of Carnarvon, now at the head of the Order, and by Brother C. I. Vigne, who long held the same high office, who presented the members of the Council to the Prince—viz., Brothers Captain Phillips, General Clerk, T. M. P. Montagu, Major Clerk, Dr. Hamilton, Sir Michael Costa, Colonel Adair, and Hugh D. Sandeman, together with Brothers H. C. Vernon, Colonel Vernon, A. H. Royds, and Colonel J. G. Sandeman, who are past or retired members of the same body. After the necessary preliminary forms, his Royal Highness received the 33rd or last degree, and was formally proclaimed and saluted as Patron of the Order. By this act the Prince of Wales has become associated with every important branch of Freemasonry in England, and the Craft has just reason to be proud of so illustrious a chief.—*Times*.

Pantomime is, so to speak, the "legitimate" drama of the present season, and we think a fuller programme than usual of this class of entertainment has been furnished this year. We always expect something on a grand scale, both at Covent Garden and Drury Lane, nor should we perhaps omit the Surrey Theatre from this expectation; this Christmas, however, Pantomime finds a home at several of the other theatres, among which the "classic" Adelphi takes a prominent position. It is very encourag-

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ing to the small folk to find that an institution so old-fashioned, and, in its present form, so thoroughly English, exhibits, not only no signs of decay, but even a promise of renewed vitality.

If an "old-fashioned" Christmas consists in the amount of frost and snow by which it is ushered in, then that of 1874 is assuredly one of the old sort. Plenty of snow there is, at any rate, in the country, where the fields have never lost their white mantle since the first fall occurred, the week before Christmas. Plenty of ice, too, is to be seen everywhere, somewhat too much in the roads, perhaps, to render them safe for travelling, either on foot or in a vehicle, and certainly too much in our pipes and cisterns for the householder's serenity of mind. At all events, the ice brings with it excitement enough for the ardent skater in the pursuance of his art, and anxiety enough for him, too, in the fluctuating condition of the thermometer and the ever varying direction of the wind.

The Railway Excursion Season of 1874 has been considered remarkably free from accidents, and there were hopes that, at last, a pretty successful effort had been made to lessen the chances of their occurrence; but within the last few days we have been startled by reports of a catastrophe at Shipton-on-Cherwell, which not only eclipses the memorable Thorpe accident in its appalling results, but is, possibly, the most terrible disaster in the railway annals of this country. If anything could possibly render this event especially harrowing, it is its occurrence at the present time of national festivity; Christmas holiday seekers forming the majority of the sufferers. The deaths, thus far, are reported at thirty-five, while considerably over fifty other persons have been more or less seriously injured. As to the cause of the accident, we prefer to be silent until the usual inquiry is completed by the officials of the Board of Trade. It is not a little singular that evils of this, as of other classes, rarely come singly. On the very day of the Shipton accident another occurred at the Albion Station, midway between Wolverhampton and Birmingham. Twenty-five passengers are reported to have been injured, of whom none, fortunately, were fatally hurt. Yet another was reported from the neighbourhood of Wigan, resulting in the death of one passenger, and the injury of twenty others. We need hardly complete the tale of disaster, but so heavy a chapter of accidents must render the Christmas of 1874 a sad epoch to many families.

Since the speech of the Duke of Cambridge, in responding to the toast of the Army, at the Merchant Taylors' Dinner, some ten days since, a great amount of correspondence has appeared in the daily press, respecting the condition of the British Army. Evidently, there is "something rotten in the state of Denmark," and we gather, that only two ways of combatting this unsatisfactory state of things suggest themselves. The first is—more pay; the second—the Conscription. His Royal Highness considers that an increase of pay will induce a better class of recruits to join the ranks; but then, as he very tersely puts it, "we must put our hands in our pockets." Certainly an increase in the army estimates (already over fourteen million pounds sterling) will horrify the parsimonious minds of our legislators, but the conscription, the only other alternative, will be still more distasteful to the nation. Thus we find ourselves, at the very outset, between the horns of a dilemma, from either of which it is difficult to see any means of escape. As to recruiting, there appears to be no lack of volunteers, who come forward in sufficient numbers, but, unhappily, appear to have a decided taste for deserting. It is hardly our province to judge as to the best means of effecting a remedy for this state of things, but we are patriotic enough to hope that the coming Session will not be allowed to pass without something being done to secure the greater efficiency of our Army.

Messrs. Dunville and Co. are the largest bottlers of Whisky in the world. Their Old Irish Whisky is recommended by the medical profession in preference to French Brandy. It is supplied in casks and cases for home use and exportation, and quotations may be had on application to Messrs. Dunville & Co., Royal Irish Distilleries, Belfast; or at their London Offices, 4 Beaufort Buildings, Strand, W.C.

NEW YEAR'S EVE AT THE MANSION HOUSE.

On Thursday evening, our worthy brother, the Lord Mayor, and the Lady Mayoress gave a grand juvenile ball at the Mansion House, preceded by a reception. About 1,200 invitations had been given, and the company included most of the leading members and officers of the Corporation, and many of the principal citizens outside the Civic circle, with the younger branches of their respective families. The company began to arrive about half-past 7, and were received by the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress in the Saloon. Shortly afterwards dancing commenced in the Egyptian-hall, which had been especially prepared for the occasion. At half-past 9 there was a very interesting exhibition of dissolving views in two series, the first of which comprised scenes and incidents in the history of ancient and modern London, and the second delineating many pleasing and humorous occurrences. At 10 o'clock supper was served, and dancing was resumed half an hour afterwards. On the ringing of a bell at a quarter to 12, the guests, in deference to the programme, grouped themselves in the Egyptian-hall, opposite the orchestra, the youngest in front and the elders behind. Perfect silence was then maintained, until the clock in the gallery struck the hour of 12, and the moment the last stroke had sounded the Royal Osborne Troupe of Handbell Ringers ushered in the new year with a merry peal, an arrangement which was not only novel in itself, but exceedingly pleasing in its general effect. At a quarter past 12 dancing was resumed and maintained for a considerable time, while in another part of the building the juvenile part of the company was interested and amused by "The Story of Dick Whittington" and "The Story of the Two Apprentices" (the latter from Hogarth), both being well told. At intervals a series of humorous and other pictures were exhibited, and the handbell ringers, or "campanologists," as they call themselves, played with marvellous effect many popular airs, among others "God bless the Prince of Wales," the Westminster Chimes Polka, "Home, sweet Home," with variations, the Huntsman's Chorus, "The Blue Bells of Scotland," "The March of the Men of Harlech," and a Scotch medley. Altogether the entertainment was one of the most pleasing which has been given at the Mansion House for many years, and the guests, especially the younger portion of them, appeared to enjoy themselves with great zest. During the evening the band of the Coldstream Guards played at intervals, under the direction of Mr. F. Godfrey.

The beginning of a new year is always a time for good resolutions and reforms. The Board of Works, determined not to be behindhand, have decided upon making numerous "alterations in the names of streets and numbering of houses within their jurisdiction." We hope that these alterations will not be carried on too recklessly, as many of our London streets by their names alone serve as easily accessible historical chronicles, and are indeed "sermons in stones" to those who have the wit to read them aright. There is no gift rarer, no art more subtle, than that of giving appropriate names. The French understand and cultivate it better than any other nation. They have graven the whole history of the Revolution in the local names of Paris, and they sweep away at a stroke the memory of an unpopular ruler by re-naming all the streets, squares, avenues and gardens, to which he has stood sponsor. But, unless it be to mark some such important change, social or political, why should the dwellers in certain districts be compelled to suffer the annoyance arising from the loss of letters, the confusion of parcels, the bewilderment of cab-drivers, and the thousand and one other inconveniences which a change of street-names or numbers invariably entails? Most of the changes proposed this year are trifling and unimportant; but if the first essential in a name is that it be distinctive it can hardly be wise to call any place Prince Arthur road. Prince Arthur has already, or will have ere long, nearly as many roads called after him as the great Pen-Dragon himself has seats. The dwellers in Cow-lane however, seem to have some show of reason on their side in petitioning for a change of name, though in certain northern towns the "Cow Gate" has won for itself an ancient and honorable reputation; but after all "What's in a name?" If "that which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet," it is to be feared that a street with any other name may remain as dirty.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

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DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be greatly obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the kingdom would favour us with a copy of their summonses each time of issue.

SATURDAY, 2nd JANUARY.

Meeting of General Committee of Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4 p.m.

MONDAY, 4th JANUARY.

12. Fortitude and Old Cumberland, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
25. Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall.
72. Royal Jubilee, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
83. United Lodge of Prudence, Albion, Aldersgate-street.
144. St. Luke's, Masonic Hall, Mason's Avenue.
188. Joppa, Albion, Aldersgate-street.
1319. Asaph, Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 24. Old King's Arms, Freemasons' Hall.
Mark, 139. Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham.

TUESDAY, 5th JANUARY.

Colonial Board at 3.
7. Royal York Lodge of Perseverance, Freemasons' Hall.
9. Albion, Freemason's Hall.
101. Temple, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
172. Old Concord, Freemasons' Hall.
765. St. James's, Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge.
1298. Royal Standard, Marquess Tavern, Canonbury.
1381. Kennington, Surrey Tavern, Kennington Oval.
Mark, 1. St. Mark's Masonic Hall, Mason's Avenue, Basinghall-street.

WEDNESDAY, 6th JANUARY.

511. Zetland, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
1412. Logia de la Iberia, Hill Road, St. John's Wood.
1491. Athenæum, Camden-road, Holloway.

THURSDAY, 7th JANUARY.

192. Lion and Lamb, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
277. Ionic, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
231. St. Andrew's, Freemasons' Hall.
538. La Tolerance, Freemasons' Hall.
554. Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
1445. Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tavern, Sandringham-road.
Rose Croix. St. George's, 33 Golden-square, London.

FRIDAY, 8th JANUARY.

134. Caledonian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
157. Bedford, Freemasons' Hall.
177. Domatic, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
1430. Earl Spencer, Northcote Hotel, New Wandsworth.
R. A. 33. Britannic, Freemasons' Tavern.
Knight Templars Precep. D., Mount Calverley, or Early Grand Encampment of England, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.

SATURDAY, 9th JANUARY.

Quarterly General Court Girls' Schools, Freemasons' Hall, at 12.0.
108. London, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
176. Caveac, Westminster Palace Hotel, Westminster.
1338. Prudent, Freemasons' Hall.
1361. United Service, Greyhound Hotel, Richmond.
1426. The Great City, City Terminus Hotel Cannon-street.
1457. Bagshaw, Bald Faced Stag, Buckhurst Hill.
R. A. 1260. Burdett, Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Grand Master's Lodge, No. 1.—A meeting of this Lodge was held at the Freemasons' Tavern on Monday 21st ult. Present—Bro. Colls P.G.S., W.M., Bro. G. Payne G.S. S.W., Bro. Girard P.G.W. Treasurer, Bro. J. M. Case P.G.S. Secretary, Bigg P.M., Bro. Alderman Sir F. Wyatt Truscott P.M., Bro. Sanderson P.G.M. (Bengal), Lumley, Mapleson, S. Rawson P.D.G.M. (China), Gooding, Paterson, Rev. E. Thompson D.D., L. C. Lumley, and several other brethren. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of last regular Lodge Meeting, and the Lodge of Emergency held on 6th June, were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Sir John Hawley Glover R.N., G.C.M.G., and Mr. H. S. Freeman, for initiation. Bro. the Right Honourable David Henry Stone (P.M.) the Lord Mayor of London, Bro. Signor Campobello and Bro. Giulio Perkens were elected Honorary Members. The Lodge was opened in 2nd and 3rd degrees, and Bro. Fenner was raised to sublime degree. The Lodge was resumed to 1st degree. Sir John H. Glover, being in attendance, was initiated into Freemasonry as an E.A., this Bro. is the Captain Glover who commanded the Naval Brigade, and whose oblique march from the Volta to Coomassie, which he reached a few hours after Sir Garnet Wolseley had left it, is one of the most dashing exploits in military history. He received for his services the Cross of the Bath. Mr. H. S. Freeman was next initiated as an E.A. Bro. G. Payne G.S. and S.W. was elected W.M., and Bro. Girard was re-elected Treasurer, for the forty-sixth time. The Tylers were re-elected. The Audit Committee were appointed. The Lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned to banquet.

St. John's Lodge, No. 90.—A meeting of this Lodge was held at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, on Monday, 14th ult. Present—Bros. J. K. Rumford W.M.; Wetherall S.W.; Snelling J.W.; Penn S.D.; Sturmer J.D.; Robson I.G. pro tem.; Bros. J. Eglese P.M. Treasurer; T. P. Griffin P.M. Secretary; P.M.'s Griffin, McDougal, Stevens, W. S. Adam; Bros. Hoard, Cross, Allison, Margetson, Pearce, Colpoys, Meyrick, and several other brethren. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The Lodge was opened in second degree, and Bro. Cross having proved his proficiency in that degree, the Lodge was opened in third degree, and Bro. Cross was raised to the sublime degree. The Lodge resumed in first degree. Bro. Wetherall S.W. was elected W.M. for the ensuing year, Bro. Eglese P.M. re-elected Treasurer. A P.M.'s jewel was voted to the outgoing W.M. for his services. The Lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned to banquet, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to; the Tyler's toast having been given, the coffee was brought in, and the brethren departed, much pleased with their evening's enjoyment.

Lodge of Justice, No. 147.—This Lodge held its usual monthly meeting at the White Swan Tavern, High Street, Deptford, on Wednesday, 9th ult. There was a goodly muster of the brethren. Bros. C. G. Dilley (P.M.) W.M., J. Roper S.W., Golding J.W., Speight S.D., Church J.D., Bro. Chapman (P.M.) Secretary; Bros. G. Bolton P.M., Batt P.M., Patte P.M., Andrews P.M., Cavell P.M., Bartlett, P.M.; Bros. Wyatt, Bray, Thomas, Beckett, Mills, Endicott, Clarke, Munro, Hutchins, Hurdle, Knowles, Kennett, and several others. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of last Lodge read and confirmed. The Lodge was opened in second degree; Bro. S. Wyatt was passed to the degree of F.C. The Lodge was opened in third degree, and Bro. J. Bates, of Excelsior Lodge, No. 1155, was raised to the sublime degree. The Lodge was resumed in first degree, and the election of W.M. took place; the voting was unanimous in favour of Bro. Roper S.W. Bro. Bartlett, I.P.M., was elected Treasurer. A sum of money was voted to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and the Widows of Freemasons, and the Audit Committee having been appointed, the Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet.

Temperance Lodge, No. 169.—A meeting of this Lodge took place at the White Swan Tavern, High street, Deptford, on Thursday, 17th ult. Present—Bro. Littlecott (P.M.) W.M., Dingle S.W., Rosenstock (P.M.) J.W. *pro tem.* Bro. Neale S.D., Bro. (P.M.'s), G. Brown, Treasurer; Tibbles, Secretary; G. Bolton, N. Wingfield; Bros. Cooper, Predham, Morgan, Bryan, Beddoe, Umfreville, Harris, Hitley, Wingfield jun., Tibbles jun., Murray, Sanderson, Stevens and several other brethren. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. The Lodge was opened in second degree, and Bros. Sanderson, Stevens and Murray were passed. The Lodge was opened in third degree, and Bros. Umfreville, Beddoe and Brian were raised to the sublime degree. The Lodge was closed to first degree. Bro. Dingle was elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. G. Brown (P.M.) Treasurer. Ten pounds was voted to the Institution for Aged Freemasons and the Widows of Freemasons, and, the Lodge being closed, an adjournment took place to an excellent banquet, provided by Mrs. Porter, to which forty brethren did ample justice.

Domatic Lodge.—A meeting was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, on Friday, the 11th December, Bro. Fredk. Kent W.M., Bro. G. Everett S.W., Bro. A. Treadwell J.W., Bro. J. Smith (P.M.), P.G.P., &c. Treasurer, Bro. Willing W.M. (Metropolitan Lodge) Secretary, Bro. Palmer J.D., &c., Bro. J. Brett (P.M.), P.G.P., Bro. Times (P.M.), Bro. Ferguson (P.M.), Bro. Vivian Douglass, &c., &c. Bros. Potter and Vivian were duly raised to the third degree; and Bros. E. W. Kent, Tribe and Richards were passed to the second degree. Messrs. Isenstein, Harris and Holder were initiated into ancient Freemasonry. After the ceremonies had been performed in the efficient manner, customary to this Lodge, the brethren proceeded to elect the W.M. for the ensuing year, and the S.W. (Bro. G. Everett) was declared duly elected to fill that office. Bro. J. Smith (P.M.) was then re-elected Treasurer, and the brethren signifying their high appreciation of his long and meritorous services, Bro. Daley was re-elected Tyler. The annual audit committee was then appointed, and the brethren afterwards adjourned to a banquet, at which, during the evening, a new Masonic Song—"Happy to meet, sorry to part, happy to meet again," of the W.M.'s, was ably sung, and gave great satisfaction. A large number of visitors enjoyed the hospitality of the Lodge. The installation will take place on Friday, the 8th January 1875.

Industry Lodge, No. 186.—An emergency meeting of this Lodge, lately held at Mason's Hall, but now removed to the Cave Restaurant, 2 Victoria Chambers, met as above, Bro. D. D. Beck W.M. being absent, Bro. Say I.P.M. fulfilled the duties of the chair perfectly, the various degrees being delivered by him in such an able manner as to be a credit to the Lodge, and at a later period of the evening, to judge by the manner in which the newly initiated Brother, in the course of his speech, paid him a very excellent compliment, in which the brethren heartily concurred, was a sufficient guarantee how the duties of the Lodge were carried out, in which he was ably supported by Bro. Wylie S.W., and W.M. elect, G. Dyer J.W., and that well known and respected Brother, W. Mann P.M., secretary; Dyer J.W., Black J.D., T. S. Mortlock and Nokemer. The Lodge was opened, and Bros. Fox, Downie, Phelp and Robinson were raised to the 3rd degree, and Messrs. R. Allison and Black were initiated. The brethren then adjourned to slight refreshments, and the W.M. proposed the usual toasts. Bro. Hooke, the Organist, not only sang some very excellent songs, but rendered his valuable services in such a manner as to give a degree of solemnity to the proceedings. Bro. H. M. Levy P.M. 188 was present as a visitor.

Lodge of Joppa, No. 188.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, Dec. 7, at the Albion, Aldersgate Street, City. The W.M., Bro. Obed Roberts, in the chair, — Heckman S.W., A. Dodson J.W., L. Auerbaan Treasurer, E. P. Albert (P.M.) Secretary, L. Lazarus S.D., — Miller J.D., and P.M.'s H. Berkowitz, L. Alexander, M. Alexander, J. Abrahams and H. M. Levy. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. P. Henningson (Grand Orient) was elected a joining member. Bro. Isaac was passed to the second degree, and Bros. J. Levi, Botibol and A. Moore were raised to the third degree, the ceremonies being perfectly worked by the W.M. Messrs. S. Botibol, J. Botibol and E. J. Samuels were initiated into the Order, the two latter gentlemen (by the courtesy of the W.M.) by Bro. H. M. Levy, P.M. The election for W.M. then took place, and Bro. S. Hickman S.W. was unanimously elected, Bro. Auerbaan Treasurer, and Woodstock

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Tyler. The Audit Committee was elected, also Trustees for the Benevolent Fund. A sum of £5 5s was proposed for the purpose of presenting the retiring W.M. with a testimonial, for his able working and thoroughly efficient qualities during his occupation of the chair, which was liberally augmented by the brethren, and a committee was formed for that purpose. The Lodge was closed, and the brethren partook of a slight repast. The usual loyal and masonic toasts were given. Bro. L. Alexander P.M. responded for the "Benevolent Fund," and he stated that the newly initiated brethren had liberally subscribed. The toast of the W.M. was received with enthusiasm. The toasts of the newly initiated, W.M. elect, and officers followed, also that of the visitors, responded to by Bros. Swallow W.M. 382 and Scott P.M. 749. The W.M. said he had a pleasing duty to perform, and although out of the ordinary routine, he was sure it would be cordially received, and that was the health of the worthy manager, Bro. W. Jennings, whom he stated was a good mason, and one who looked after their comfort, to the satisfaction of every brother and visitor. The same remarks apply to Bro. Keeping, who was following in his footsteps. Bro. Jennings having replied, the brethren separated, after passing a very agreeable evening. The visitors were Bros. C. Gammon P.M. and Treasurer 795, J. E. Crump 122, E. J. Scott P.M. 749, Swallow W.M. 382, Moore 1,017, Van Noorden, Organist 188, Van Minden 205, Cohen 205, and Prager 15.

Confidence Lodge, No. 193.—The installation meeting of this Lodge—celebrated for its perfect working—was held on Monday, the 14th December, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street. Bros. H. Webb W.M., J. B. King S.W., — Bonny J.W., and P.M.'s W. F. Rogers, S. Webb, Kershaw and Shackell. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. H. Goddard (late 193) was elected a joining member. Messrs. Rutherford and Wood were initiated, and Bros. Cruske and Dewar were raised to the sublime degree of master masons. A board of installed masters was formed, and Bro. King S.W. and W.M. elect was duly installed into the chair by Bro. W. F. Rogers, who elicited the warmest marks of encomium from every brother and visitor. The W.M. having been saluted according to ancient custom, invested his Officers, viz., Bros. H. Webb I.P.M., — Bonny S.W., — Reed J.W., — Warne (P.M.) Treasurer, J. Rogers (P.M.) Secretary (who had occupied that position for 30 years), — Tithian S.D., — Pringle J.D., — Lagg I.G., S. Webb P.M. D.C., and — Ryley (Tyler). Bro. D. B. Kershaw P.M. having announced his intention to become a steward at the forthcoming festival for Aged Freemasons and the Widows of Freemasons, a sum of £5 was voted from the Lodge to be placed on his list, which was liberally augmented by the brethren. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a very capital banquet, provided by Bro. Clemow, and superintended by Bro. W. Smith, that gave great satisfaction. The regular toasts were given, both loyal and Masonic. Bro. Webb, in proposing the toast of the W.S., stated the Lodge never placed any brother in the chair, and he was proud to say the W.M. was well qualified to carry out those duties. The W.M. having replied, proposed the toast of the "Past Masters," and coupled with it the name of Bro. H. Webb I.P.M., on whose breast he was pleased to place a very elegant gold Past Master's Jewel, the gift of the Lodge for their regard and esteem, for his perfect working during his year of office. The toast of the visitors was severally responded to, these were Bros. Fox P.M. 19, J. C. Roe J.W. 730, J. H. Sutton 1287, Perrin 1056, J. W. Avery P.M., King 436 (Australia), Curtis 180, Myers 438, J. H. Staton 1287, Cook 463, and H. M. Levy P.M. The Tyler's toast concluded a very agreeable evening, which was enlivened by the splendid singing of Bros. S. Webb, H. Webb, F. Rogers, and Perrin.

Mundy Grove Lodge, No. 506.—The 30th anniversary of this Lodge was celebrated at the Boat Inn, Shipley, on Tuesday, the 29th ult., when Bro. G. R. Turner was duly installed as W.M. for the ensuing year. The impressive ceremony of installation was ably performed by Bro. J. Farnsworth P.M. and P.P.G.J.D. of the province. The W.M. appointed as his officers the following brethren, Bros. R. Pender S.W.; G. Bingham J.W.; James Noon Treasurer; C. Askew Secretary; S. Durose S.D.; J. Archbold J.D; W. Dixon I.G.; W. Braithwate Steward. After the conclusion of the usual business, the brethren sat down to a substantial dinner, provided by Bro. Noon, and an agreeable evening was spent.

Whittington Lodge, No. 862.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held, on the 21st ult., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street. Bros. A. R. Haley W.M., Kingston S.W., Walker J.W., Robt. Westworth Little P.M. Treasurer, Pritchard S.D., Walmsley J.D., Moore I.G., J. Brett P.G., P.W.S., and P.M.'s James Weaver, Smith, Jones, and about twenty brethren present. The Lodge having been opened, and the minutes confirmed, Mr. G. Oberli was initiated into the Order. Bro. James Weaver P.M. then passed Bros. Beldan, Webb, May, J. S. Brown, Williams and Hum in a perfect manner. A distressed brother was relieved from the funds of the Lodge, with the sum of two guineas. A gentleman was proposed for initiation at the next meeting. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a very excellent banquet, and the toasts were given as usual —both Loyal and Masonic. The visitors were Bros. Everitt 177, Stephens P.M. 1,489, High 1,489 and Peters W.M. 262.

Whittington Chapter, No. 862.—An emergency meeting of this new Chapter was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street. Comp. W. Hurlstone Z., W. J. Hurlstone, W. Stephens J., J. Weaver, P.Z.S.E. The Chapter was opened and the following brethren being present were duly exalted into Royal Arch Masonry, viz., Bros. J. Marles 1365 and J.W. 1489; T. Jessett 1365 and S.D. 1489; and W. H. Norman, No. 30. The Chapter was then closed. The companions present were J. Weaver, P.Z., J. Brett, P.Z., R. W. Little, P.Z., Stephens, Kingston and Tinney.

Strawberry Hill Lodge, No. 946.—On Wednesday, 9th December, a meeting was held at the Grotto Hotel, Twickenham. W. Waghorn W.M., J. Hayward S.W., — Johnson J.W., J. R. Stedwell (P.M.) Treasurer; W. Platt (P.M.) Treasurer; — Wolgemuth J.D., — Javier I.G., P.M.'s Kipling, W. Smeed, Whitley and W. Watson. The business consisted of raising Bros. Ashton, Webb and Salmon to the third degree, and initiating Mr. Rawes into the Order. The working of the W.M. deserved great praise, and is worthy of imitation, for so young a member of the Order. The Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. The usual routine toasts were given. Bro. W. Smeed (P.M.), in returning thanks for the Past Masters, in the course of a very eloquent speech, paid the W.M., Bro. Waghorn, a just compliment for his perfect rendering of the ceremonies. The Tyler's toast concluded a very agreeable evening. The visitors were Bros. Ireton (Ebury Lodge), Edwards and Powell.

Lodge of Montefiore, No. 1017.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, on Wednesday, 9th December. Bro. J. De Solla in the chair. — Gruinbaum S.W., — Blum J.W., supported by the officers and P.M.'s, Bro. Blumenthal, — Pollitzer, J. Lazarus, and S. V. Abrahams. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. Ososki, No. 25, was elected a joining member, and Bros. Cave and Wilson were passed to the second degree. A Board of Installed Masters was then formed, and Bro. Gruinbaum S.W. and W.M. elect was presented to the Lodge, and the ceremony of installation was beautifully and perfectly rendered by Bro. S. P. Abrahams (P.M.) The W.M. then invested his officers, viz., Bro. J. De Solla I.P.M., — Blum S.W., V. Myers J.W., L. Jacobs Treasurer, E. P. Albert (P.M.) Treasurer, — Gulliford S.D., — Albu J.D., — Ring I.G., — Salomons D.C., — Ellis W.S. — Hirshfield Organist, and — Smith Tyler. The Lodge was then called off, and the brethren sat down to a Banquet *à la Russe*, provided by Bro. Francatelli, and superintended by Bro. Knill, the courteous manager, that gave great satisfaction. The loyal and masonic toasts were given, including the usual routine toasts. Bro. J. De Solla, the I.P.M., was presented with a jewel by Bro. O. Roberts W.M. 188. Arthur Levy returned thanks for the visitors, who were Bros. Seymour 736, J. H. Ryley 188, O. Roberts W.M. 188, J. E. Woolf No. 1, J. Emanuel W.M. 205, C. Hogard P.M. 205, H. G. Buss Grand Treasurer (Middlesex), P. E. Van Noorden 188, — Robson 90, A. Hirsch 188, — Sush 890, Dispeker 73, &c. A very excellent concert was provided by Bro. P. E. Van Noorden, Miss Leonora Braham, Mr. Prenton, A. Mori, and a violin solo was capitally played by a pupil of Bro. Van Noorden.

St. Peter's Lodge, Tiverton, No. 1125.—The annual meeting of this Lodge, for the installation of the W.M. elect, and the appointment and investment of officers, was held at the Masonic Hall, on Wednesday, 30th December, Bro. J. B. Patterson W.M., presiding. Bro. Thomas Parkhouse (the W.M. elect), was duly presented and installed; the service throughout being performed in a faultless manner by the retiring W.M. The following officers were appointed and invested:—Bros. C. A. W. Troyte S.W.; Walter H. Reed jun. J.W; Rev. J. Dickinson Chaplain; H. S. Gill Treasurer; James Mills P.M., P.G.O., Secretary; G. W. Cockram S.D.; William Bartlett J.D.; T. F. Mead I.G.; J. B. Crabb D.C.; A. Andrews Org.; Joseph Searle and John Melhuish Stewards; John Patey Tyler; Bro. Thomas Parkhouse W.M. Representative on Board of Petitions. After the closing of the Lodge, the brethren adjourned to banquet at Bro. Woods, White Ball Hotel, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

Golden Rule Lodge, No. 1261.—This Lodge held its meeting at the Regent Masonic Hall, Air Street, Regent Street, on Tuesday, 1st ult. Present—Bros. J. Harris W.M., W. W. Smith S.W., J. Williams J.W., Bro. Bigg I.P.M. and Treasurer, A. Torkington, Secretary; Bros. J. P. Godfrey S.D., Sunley P.M., Cross P.M., James Fabian P.P.G., W. Hants, Hibbert, A. G. Sharpe, and several other brethren. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Messrs. Francis Deane, G. J. Simpson, J. Levy and A. Curtis, for initiation, which was unanimous in their favour. A ballot was taken for Bro. J. Davis, of No. 487, and A. G. Sharpe, as joining members. Messrs. Deane and Levy, being in attendance, were initiated into Freemasonry as E.A. The election of W.M. then took place, when the choice of the brethren was unanimous in favour of Bro. W. W. Smith, the S.W. Bro. Bigg I.P.M. was elected Treasurer. The Lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to banquet, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given. Bro. Cross returned thanks for the P.M.'s, and Bro. Smith, the W.M. elect, for the officers.

Brownrigg Lodge, No. 1424.—The installation meeting of this Lodge, named after Major Gen. Brownrig, the Provincial Grand Master of Surrey, who consecrated it two years ago, was held at the Soldiers' Institute, Chatham. Master Gunner J. A. Bates, R.A., the Master of the Lodge, installed his successor, Staff Serjeant John Jervis, in the Master's chair; and after the new officers of the Lodge had been invested, Past Masters' jewels were presented to Quartermaster S. Cole, Royal Engineers, the first Master of the Lodge, and Master Gunner Bates. A large company of military and other brethren were present on the occasion, who were entertained at a banquet subsequently; and when the toasts were given, Mr. F. Binckes, a past Grand Steward and Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, made a strong appeal on behalf of the three Masonic Charitable Institutions, which, he said, provided for the aged, and boarded, clothed, and educated the young.

Metropolitan Lodge, No. 1507.—The third meeting of this flourishing Lodge took place on Thursday evening, the 18th December, at the Metropolitan Club, 269 Pentonville Road, Kings Cross, when, in spite of the inclemency of the weather, a large muster of the brethren took place. The working and the whole of the ceremonies were conducted in a most impressive manner. Bros. J. Willing W. M. (in the chair), J. J. Michael S.W., T. Williams J.W.,

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G. Tims Secretary, H. Child S.D., R. T. Kingham J.D., J. Douglass I.G., R. Fowler D.C., also Bros. Rapkin, Scales, Hopton, Stiles Colls, Cheek, Maples, Page, Clarke, Cavet, Jones, Cook, Titford, Dunmore, &c. The visitors were Bros. Jones, Yeats, Day, &c. Bros. Rapkin, Stiles and Scales were duly raised to the third degree, and Bros. Hopton, Jones, Jackson and Cook passed. Mr. Trimmings (Holloway), Mr. Tuck (Metropolitan Board of Works), Mr. Bramell (Surveyor, Kentish Town), and Mr. Bunkill, were initiated, in an admirable manner, into the mysteries and privileges of Ancient Freemasonry. The brethren, 39 in number, adjourned to the banquet, and the W.M. proposed the usual toasts. This being a new Lodge, Bro. Tims, Secretary and P.M., in proposing the toast of the W.M., alluded to its prosperous state, both in numbers and financially, the furniture having been completed and paid for (cheers), which is highly commendable in a Lodge so short a period in existence. The W.M., in proposing the toast of the Initiates, exhorted them, in forcible terms, to perfect themselves. They should attend Lodges of Instruction, and brethren who held high offices in the Craft were always ready and willing to impart their knowledge for their benefit, so that they were able to acknowledge their being members of the Order without violating their obligations, and he informed them that the veteran Preceptor, Bro. T. Adams P.G.P., had consented to give them instruction, should they wish to do so. The various toasts having been responded to, the brethren separated. An harmonious and agreeable evening was passed, and it is to be hoped that meetings will in future take place within the precincts of places where Freemasonry can be carried out in its entirety, viz., by perfect working, and in an establishment like this club, where a social evening can be enjoyed.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Male Constitution.—When the human frame has become debilitated, from the effects of exposure, excesses or neglect, these Pills will repair the mischief, if they be taken according to the lucid directions wrapped round each box. Holloway's Pills exert the most extraordinary tonic qualities in all cases of nervous depression, whereby the vital powers are weakened, and the circulation is rendered languid and unsteady. They improve the appetite, strengthen the digestion, regulate the liver, and act as gentle aperients. These Pills are suited to all ages and all habits, and their inventor's fame has resounded through all the quarters of the globe; wherever sickness exists, this medicine has made its way, to be everywhere largely approved and justly appreciated.

SCOTLAND.

FESTIVAL OF ST JOHN'S DAY.

ACCORDING to use and wont, the brethren of the Masonic Craft met in their respective lodge-rooms on Monday night, 28th December, to celebrate the time honoured festival of St. John the Evangelist, and to instal their office bearers for the ensuing year. In the metropolitan district most of the lodge-rooms were suitably decorated for the occasion. The annual election and installation of office bearers having been duly accomplished, the members of the various lodges dined together in joyous fellowship, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and honoured after the manner of the craft, and the time devoted to social intercourse, agreeably interspersed with jest and song. In the course of the evening the time honoured custom of lodges sending deputations to one another was punctiliously carried out, and many good wishes were thus sent round and mutual congratulations exchanged among the brethren.

The following is a list of the principal office-bearers, of the lodges in Edinburgh and Leith for the year 1875 :—

Mary's Chapel, No. 1.—R. W. M., Bailie Muirhead; P.M., Bro. Abbott; D.M., Bro. Roy; S.M., Bro. Dr. Dickson; S.W., Bro. Nightingale; J.W., Bro. Shires; Treasurer, Bro. Campbell; Secretary, Bro. Webster; Chaplain, Bro. W. H. Cave Brown; S.D., Bro. Macdonald; J.D., Bro. Crighton; Bible-bearer, Bro. Jamieson; Jeweller, Bro. Law; Architect, Bro. Councillor Hall.

Canongate Kilwinning, No. 2.—R.W.M., Brother Schopp; D.M., Dr. Middleton; S.W., Page Cotton; J.W., A. W. Beda; Treasurer, Thomas Dryborough; Secretary, William Munro.

Canongate and Leith, L. and C., No. 5.—R.W.M., Bro. Ebenezer Drummond; P.M., John Laurie; D.M., George Hodson; S.M., David Laird; S.W., Edwin Milner; J.W., Robert Stodart; Treasurer, William R. Kelly; Secretary, William Ross; Chaplain, Rev. William Graham; S.D., Robert Gray; J.D., Henry Caron; Architect, Charles R. Sey; B.B., Alexander R. Brown; Poet Laureate, Peter Gardner.

Journeyman, No. 8.—R.W.M., Bro. P. Sinclair; P.M., H. R. Hendrie; S.W., J. Ronaldson; J.W., James Kerr; Treasurer, William Barton; Secretary, J. Cameron; S.D., W. Stevenson; J.D., R. Kerr; Chaplain, J. Davidson; S.M., G. Douglas; D.M., H. Munro; Mark Master, J. M'Pherson.

St. Luke, No. 44.—R.W.M., Bro. H. Y. D. Copeland; D.M., H. L. Harvey; S.M., P. J. Mansfield; S.W., H. E. Gordon; J.W., G. Dunlop; Secretary and Treasurer, J. H. Bostock; Chaplains, Rev. W. H. Gray, D.D., and Rev. A. T. Grant; S.D., Harry J. Anderson; J.D., W. H. Mackenzie.

St. Andrew, No. 48.—R.W.M., Bro. Dr. Wm. Hammond; S.M., Dr. James Carmichael; D.M., Dr. W. S. Carmichael; S.W., A. C. Edmunds; J.W., J. C. Pottage; Secretary, David Knight.

St. James, No. 97.—R.W.M. Bro. Robert Gordon; P.M., Dr. J. R. Turnbull; D.M., Samuel Aitken; S.M., D. Macdonald; S.W., John Swan; J.W., H. Macpherson; Treasurer, William Hannah; Secretary, Thomas Millar; S.D., John Hall; J.D., William R. Niven; Architect, David Small; Chaplain, James Fowler; Bible-Bearer, J. Wilson; Bard, B. Napier.

St. Stephen, No. 145.—R.W.M., Bro. R. Wadler; P.M., R. S. Brown; D.M., J. Walker; S.M., D. M. Scott; S.W., W. W. Mooney; J.W., J. Amos; Treasurer, J. Brown; Secretary, W. Greig; Chaplain A. Reynolds; S.D., J. A. Mooney; J.D., W. Young; Architect, G. W. Heywood; B.B., W. C. Linton.

Defensive Band, No. 151.—R.W.M., Bro. George Botland; P.M., D. Palmer; D.M., J. Beveridge; S.M., Daniel Grant; S.W., Thos. Ritchie; J.W., W. D. Cramond; S.D., A. Smith; J.D., J. Clarke; Treasurer, S. K. Orr; Secretary, W. Bisset; Chaplain, Rev. Porland, M.A.; Bible-bearer, D. Ross, sen.

Roman Eagle, No. 160.—R.W.M., Bro. G. Laing; P.M., Dr. Cairns; D.M., W. Stevenson, M.A.; S.M., J. Mann; S.W., R. Miller; J.W., T. Wilmott; Treasurer, W. Anderson; Secretary A. Scott; Chaplain, J. Cowan, sen.; S.D., A. R. Peacock; J.D. W. Newsam; Architect, J. R. M'Call; B.B., H. Gray; Poet Laureate, J. Smith.

Trafalgar, No. 223.—R.W.M., Bro. A. Wallace, S.S.C., 11 Claremont-park; P.M., R. Scott, 141 Constitution-street; D.M., D. Stalker, 9 Commercial-street; S.M., P. Bell, Restalrig-terrace; S.W., W. Barry, 84 Constitution-street; J.W., D. Turner, 11 Dock-place; Treasurer, A. Hov, 7 Janefield-place; Secretary, J. Johnston, 50 Duke-street; S.D., R. Hamilton; J.D., J. Hadden; Architect, G. Kemp; Chaplain, Rev. A. S. Muir; B.B., T. Leslie.

Celtic, No. 291.—R.W.M., Bro. J. D. Wormald; P.M., David Kinnear; L.T.P.M., Christopher Thomson; D.M., George M'Lean; S.M., George Cotton; S.W., George G. Russell; J.W., J. Henderson (Annville); Treasurer, Alexander Hay; Secretary, James Walker; Chaplain, David Nimmo; S.D., Donald M'Kay (late Scots Greys); J.D., David Nimmo, jun.; Poet Laureate, F. W. Bridgman.

St. Clair, No. 349.—R.W.M., Bro. G. Dobie; P.M., Alexander Henry; S.M., John Dawson; S.W., James Greenaway; J.W., Robert Hogg; Treasurer, A. M. Bruce; Secretary, John Taylor; Chaplain, James Clark; S.D., M. Schnitzler; J.D., F. W. Dobie; B.B., James Small.

GREENOCK.

On Monday night, 28th December, the anniversary of St. John was celebrated in Greenock by a dinner in the White Hart Hotel, and by a like entertainment in the Chambers. Both were well attended, and the usual list of speeches was gone through. The Greenock St. John Lodge, No. 175, opened a lodge at a subsequent stage in the proceedings in Exchange Buildings, and received deputations from Paisley, Port-Glasgow, and other places.

MELROSE.

The festival was celebrated at Melrose in the usual manner, on Monday 28th December. About 120 members of the order formed into a procession, and, preceded by the Hawick brass band, marched twice along the streets, on the latter occasion carrying blazing torches. The illumination of the Abbey was the chief attraction, and notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, the chancel and aisles were crowded, while the band played "Scots wha hae" near the spot where the heart of Bruce was deposited.

BREAKFAST.—EPPS'S COCOA.—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills."—*Civil Service Gazette*. Made simply with Boiling Water or Milk. Each packet is labelled—"JAMES EPPS & Co., Homœopathic Chemists, 48, Threadneedle Street, and 170, Piccadilly." Also, makers of Epps's Glycerine Jujubes, for throat irritation.

OBITUARY FOR 1874.

THE following list, from the *Times* of 31st ult., of some of the principal deaths that have occurred during the past year, although containing fewer names than many of its predecessors, must be considered as far from brief.

In Royal circles, the following deaths have occurred :—The Archduke Carl Ferdinand, of Austria; the Countess de Montemolin, mother of Don Carlos; and the King of the Sandwich Islands.

Twenty seven deaths, being considerably above the average, have occurred in the Peerage, viz :—The Duke of Leinster; the Marquises of Downshire and Clanricade; the Earls of Dalhousie, Castlestuart, Romney, Egmont, Annesley, Charleville, Howth, and the Countess (in her own right) of Landoun; Lords Blayney, Colonsay, De Ros, Fermoy, Forester, Kesteven, Kingsale, Macdonald, Massey, Romilly, Rosmore, St. John, Soudes, Stuart de Decies, Thurlow, and the Baroness de Clifford. Out of the above-named titles, two are presumed to have become extinct—namely, those of Blayney and Colonsay.

The deaths of 37 baronets have to be recorded, viz :—Sir William K. Ball, Sir Edmund Beckett, Sir T. W. Proctor-Beauchamp, Sir G. Cholmley, Sir George Campbell of Succoth, Sir William Forster, Sir Walter Carew, General Sir James C. Chatterton, Sir William Fairbairn, Sir Robert C. Dallas, Sir Montague G. Cholmley, Sir Stephen R. Glynne, Sir A. S. Hamond-Graeme, Sir William Jardine, Sir Thomas J. Kemp, Sir Thomas W. Holburne, Sir Denis Le Marchant, Sir John K. James, Sir William R. Kemp, the Rev. Sir James Walker King, Sir Percy Nugent, Sir Henry Oglander, Sir Richard Musgrave, Sir E. H. Page-Turner, Sir Coventry Payne, Sir John de la Pole, Sir F. Montagu Pollock, Sir E. Scudamore-Stanhope, Sir Claude E. Scott, Sir Alexander Spearman, the Hon. and Rev. Sir Francis Stapleton, Sir Henry Webb, Sir Henry Meysey-Thompson, Sir John Walsham, Sir Archdale Wilson of Delhi, Sir William S. Wiseman, and Sir John R. Wolseley. Out of the above titles those of Ball, Chatterton, Holburne, Glynne, Oglander and Webb have become extinct.

From the roll of the British Knightage, the following names disappear :—Sir John Benson, Sir William H. Botkin, Sir William Boyd, General Sir Sydney Cotton, G.C.B., Sir William H. Elliot, Sir Charles Fox, Sir Charles R. M. Jackson, Sir J. Gaspard Le Marchant, General the Hon. Sir James Lindsay, Sir James Duncan Macpherson,

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Sir James Ranald Martin, Sir William Martins, Sir Alexander Nisbet, Sir Andrew Orr, Sir William Perry, Admiral Sir Henry Prescott, Sir John Rennie, Sir Thomas Ross, Sir Joshua Rowe, Sir Robert Smart, Sir John Mark Frederick Smith, Sir Francis Pettit Smith, Sir Henry Storks, Sir Roger Therry, Sir Henry Tombs, and Sir Edward Samuel Walker.

Four vacancies have occurred by death in the House of Commons since the general election, viz.:—Mr. Charles Gilpin (Northampton), Mr. John Laird (Birkenhead), Lord George Manners (Cambridgeshire), Mr. Edward G. Davenport (St. Ives).

Among the members of former Parliaments who have died during the year are the Right Hon. F. P. Dunne, Mr. William Stuart, of Aldenham Abbey; Lieutenant-Colonel Packe; Mr. Morritt, of Rokeby; Mr. Alexander Dennistoun, Mr. Donald Maclean, Mr. William D. Christie, Mr. Benjamin Bond Cabbell, Mr. Henry Peters Burton, Mr. John Cotes, Sir George Cholmley, Baron Meyer de Rothschild, Mr. John Greenwood, Colonel Henry Salwey, Mr. John Candlish, the Hon. George Fitzwilliam, Mr. C. Wynne Finch, Sir William Bodkin, Mr. Adam Black, Sir James Lindsay, the Earl of Egmont (Captain G. Perceval), Mr. Francis Finch, Mr. John Lee Lee, Mr. Alderman Challis, the Earl of Romney (Lord Marsham), Sir Henry Storks, Mr. Edward R. Langworthy, Colonel Ouseley Higgins, Sir Stephen Glynne, Sir Edmund Beckett, Mr. Sackville Lane-Fox, Colonel the Hon. John C. Westenra, Mr. W. Hughes-Hughes, Sir Percy Nugent, and Sir H. M. Thompson.

Among the most remarkable diplomatists and other foreign celebrities we have had to record the deaths of M. Silvain Van de Weyer, the Duc de Montebello, M. Guizot, M. Michelet, Marshal Thiebault, Count Rudolph Wratislaw, M. Huet, Countess Brunnow, Countess Danner (morganatic widow of the King of Sweden), Mr. Fillmore, ex-President of the United States; Mr. Charles Sumner, David F. Strauss (author of the celebrated "Leben Jesu"), Countess Apponyi, Councillors Von Krauss and Von Balan, of Berlin; M. Beulé, Count Simeon (Senator and Translator of "Horace"), M. de Goulard, Count Luders, Prince Pignatelli, Baron Anselm de Rothschild, the Baron Valetin de Trevis, Nicolo Tommaseo, Marshal Concha, of Spain; Count D'Alton Shee, Prince Dömenico Orsini, Countess Virginia M. Orsili (niece of the Pope), Count de Labedoyere (ex-Senator), M. N. Mavrocordato, the financier; Prince Sayn Wittgenstein Hohenstein, of Prussia; Count de Theux de Meylandt, formerly Prime Minister of Belgium.

In the profession of the law we have had to record the deaths of Lord Colonsay, Sir William Bodkin, Mr. Abraham Brewster (formerly Lord Chancellor of Ireland), Lord Romilly, Mr. Charles Austin, Q.C., Mr. P. F. O'Malley, Q.C., Mr. Dempster Hemming, Mr. Herman Merivale, Mr. Horace Lloyd (Police Magistrate at Greenwich), the Hon. Edward Twisleton, Mr. Leahy, Q.C., Sir Charles Jackson (late Judge at Calcutta), Mr. H. Robinson, Q.C., Mr. Cosmo N. Innes, Mr. Christopher Hodgson, Mr. J. C. Templer, Mr. C. Wordsworth, Q.C., and Lord Benholme (the Scotch Judge).

Among the clergy and ministers of various denominations we have to record the deaths of the Bishop of Kilmore (Dr. Carson), the ex-Bishop of Bombay (Dr. Harding), Archdeacon Churton, Monsignor Merode, the Rev. W. H. Brookfield, (preacher of the Rolls Chapel), Cardinal Barnabo, the Rev. Hobart Seymour, the Archdeacon (Clark) of St. David's, the Rev. Dr. Biber, the Rev. Edmund Keel, of Southampton; the Rev. W. Ricks, the Rev. Dr. Binney, Cardinal Tarquini, the ex-Bishop of Winchester (Dr. Sumner), the Bishop of Ossory and Ferns (Dr. O'Brien), the Rev. Professor Foley, of Dublin; the Archbishop of Malta, the Rev. Canon Woodgate, the Rev. Thomas Vogan, the Rev. Canon Richson, Father La Vigne, Vicar-General of Nice; the Rev. Dr. Sewell, and Archdeacon Ormerod, the Rev. Henry Highton, the Dean of Derry, the Dean of Armagh, the ex-Bishop of Gibralter (the Hon. and Right Rev. Dr. Harris), and the Rev. E. Bouverie.

Literature and the drama have lost representatives, more or less important, in M. Guizot, Mr. Shirley Brooks, Mr. Bellew (the popular lecturer), Mr. John Heneage Jesse, Miss Agnes Strickland, Mr. James Hannay, Mr. Tom Hood, M. Sylvain Van de Weyer, Mr. Albert Way, F.S.A., Mr. John Gough Nichols, F.S.A., Mr. Howard Staunton, Mr. Adam Black (publisher), Mr. Sydney Dobell, Mr. Thomas Miller (the basket-maker poet), Mr. John Blackie (publisher), Mdlle. Aimée Desclée, Mr. W. H. Betty (the "youthful Roscius"), Dr. Charles T. Beke, Mr. Henry Godwin, F.S.A., Mr. Charles Swain, John Moultrie (the poet), and Mrs. Marsh Caldwell.

From the world of art we have lost Mr. John Pye (the "father of landscape engravers"), Mr. Field Talfourd, Mr. David Simson, of Edinburgh; Wilhelm von Kaulbach, of Munich; Mr. W. Telbin, Mr. Kenny Meadows, Mr. J. H. Foley (the sculptor), Mr. Robert Carlyle (Miniature painter), the Baron de Talquiti, Mr. Joseph Paton, and Mr. Owen Jones.

Science has to lament the loss of Dr. Neill Arnott, Dr. Lankester, Sir John Rennie, Sir William Jardine, Dr. Forbes Winslow; Maedler, the astronomer, of Hanover; Andreas Hansen, the astronomer, of Gotha; Mr. Edward Blyth, the zoologist; Professor Phillips, of Oxford; Mr. Richard Tamplin, the surgeon; Paolo Ross, the Roman astronomer; and Professor Grant, of University College.

Our list of miscellaneous deaths includes Madame Parepa Ross, Mr. John Grantham, civil engineer and architect; the Countess of Clarendon, Lady Anne Stirling-Maxwell, Mr. William Torr, the agriculturist; Mr. Charles Young, the comedian; Mr. Addison, the comedian; Lady Phipps, the Marchioness of Thomond, Ellen Lady Stirling, Lady Dunfermline, the Countess of Northesk, Mr. Nightingale, the Duchess Dowager of Argyll, the Duchess Dowager of Leeds, Lady Coleridge, sen., the Dowager Marchioness of Anglesey, Colonel Grey, Admirals Denman, Jervis, Currie, and Keats; the Hon. G. Stafford-Jerningham, Ladies Edward and William Russell, General Eden, Ladies Houghton, Alison, Letitia Aldworth, Augusta Milbank, Sarah Murray; Madame Lidia (the traveller), Lady Ratcliff, Lady Dilke, Dowager Lady Berners, Mr. Patrick Boyle, of Shewalton; Mr. F. Scrymgeour Wedderburn, Lady Hogg, Lady Amberley, Lord James Murray, the Countesses of Guildford and Stanhope, the Dowager Countess of Desart, Princess Palagonia-Grifeo, and the Siamese Twins.

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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. I.—No. 2. SATURDAY, 9th JANUARY 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

THE SUCCESS OF THE "*CHRONICLE*."

NOTWITHSTANDING the homely maxim which warns us not to halloo until we are out of the wood, we are constrained, in consequence of the marked success of our First Number, to say a few words upon matters which, since they concern the well-being of a journal that has the interest of Masonry at heart, can scarcely be regarded as merely personal. Our success has been so unqualified, and we have received so many letters of encouragement from high and influential quarters, that we have now no doubt at all that we shall be able, with the cordial co-operation of our brethren, to make THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE in every way worthy of the Craft it aspires to represent. In spite of the counsels of many half-hearted friends, who insisted upon the assumed fact that Freemasons, as a rule, were regardless of the press, and indisposed to use it as a channel of intercommunication, we did our brethren the justice to believe that any apparent apathy on their part with respect to Masonic journalism merely arose from the acknowledged inferiority of the organs which have hitherto solicited the confidence of the Order. We felt assured that an honest effort to place before them a high class Masonic journal, whose literary matter and style of printing would not shame the most fastidious, would be appreciated; and the result proves that we were right in crediting the Order with high public spirit, and something more than even Masonic *esprit de corps*. Our First Number, which has been eagerly sought for, has circulated through the length and breadth of the land; and every post brings us letters of thanks and congratulation from men who have made their mark in Masonry, and who may fairly be regarded as the official spokesmen for their colleagues. Suggestions and hints for the development of our news columns have not been wanting, and, while thanking those who have thus given us the benefit of their large experience in the technical portion of Masonry, we may say that their suggestions, where practicable, shall be adopted as soon as opportunity offers. We are now making arrangements for the supply of regular memoranda of all Lodge meetings of importance, and we hope to give our readers a complete weekly *résumé* of Masonic intelligence, which shall leave nothing to be desired in that particular. With respect to the literary department of the paper, we hope to give a series of articles on Masonic questions of high interest, from the pens of competent brothers who are well trained in literary work. We do not despair of establishing correspondentships in India, America, and the Colonies, so that our readers may be posted up in the proceedings of the Craft throughout the wide range of the Masonic world. This latter feature, however, will necessarily be a work of time, but already we have printed an article upon Masonry in the United States, from the pen of an able American brother, and we shall be prepared to follow this up with a further article by a distinguished English Mason who has recently returned from a visit to the land of the Stars and Stripes. We are of opinion that an international exchange of views upon questions which embrace the broad principles upon which the brotherhood is based will be highly conducive to the homogeneous welding of the Order into one compact mass. Every travelling Mason is aware that Lodges in distant countries occasionally depart somewhat from the orthodox ritual, and although our "Constitutions" may be firmly adhered to generally, yet place and circumstance, and the absence of any general communication with the distant outposts of the Masonic body, renders outlying Lodges liable to errors in matters of detail. These errors might be avoided if our distant brethren were brought into immediate relationship with those founts of perfect practice and ceremonial,—the English Grand Lodge and its great provincial prototypes. We shall not forget that Masonry is, so to speak, indigenous in the British Army, which has had the honour of carrying the mysteries of the Craft into every quarter of the globe. We shall do our best to keep our readers informed of the proceedings of our military brethren, and as the regimental Lodge necessarily follows the corps to which it is attached, we hope to make our reports of this branch of the Craft co-extensive with the Great Empire over which our gracious Queen holds her benign sway. Articles on questions of moment connected with the outer world will not be wanting, to vary the interest of our columns, and as these will be written from a Masonic standpoint, we are sanguine that they will be heartily welcome to our readers. Nor shall we forget the vast mass of Masonic literature which has emanated from the pens of gifted brothers during the last generation. Books for review are already crowding upon us, but in addition to fair and impartial notices of current publications, we shall, from time to time, as occasion offers, prepare careful papers upon the old standard works connected with the Order, in which lies embalmed the ripe experience of men who were bright stars in the brilliant galaxy of the distinguished members of the Craft. In conclusion, we feel assured that the enthusiastic reception with which our First Number was greeted will be extended to our future issues, since we shall spare neither time, labour, nor expense to command universal support. Even if, after all our efforts, we do not achieve permanent success, we will endeavour to show to our brethren that we deserve it.

AFTER-DINNER SPEECHES.

THE art of public speaking has been greatly neglected in this country. There is no lack of schools for the study of various systems of musical notation; almost every village has its choral society, but who can point to an institution where oratory is cultivated as a fine art. Homer speaks of "the smooth-tongued chief, from whose persuasive lips, sweeter than honey, flowed the stream of speech." But that was among the sensitive Greeks, with whom eloquence was a worship; in our colder northern latitudes great verbal fluency is often viewed with suspicion. The vulgar have a saying, "all jaw," and the more refined tell us that "speech is silvern, silence is golden." Like many another proverb, taken literally, this one is exceedingly foolish. You have but to carry out the idea to its logical conclusion, and we might glory in a House of Commons that was a vast deaf and dumb asylum. As a matter of fact, a ready and fluent tongue is only ridiculous when unaccompanied by study and observation; when, however, it is used as the medium for rendering current the results of reading and of reflection, it gives a charm and grace to society which all the splendours of wealth might compete with in vain. Our present object is not to suggest the foundation of a great school of oratory, but to point out a few simple rules, by which every man may become an agreeable, if not a profound and brilliant speaker. All the arts of life are said to have resulted from the inconveniences which arose on account of the want of them, and we confess we have been led to a consideration of this subject by the sufferings we have endured in our capacity of

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listening Freemason. What brother is there amongst us who can, with fidelity, assert that he has not endured with impatience the verbal flounderings of many otherwise good fellows? Moreover—but this we whisper with bated breath—which of us, from entered apprentice to Grand Officer has not, at some time in his career, felt that most dreadful of sensations, when the blood seems to flee from underneath the cheeks, and the tongue refuses to moisten the parched lips, which gasp inarticulately like a fish in *extremis*? This, brethren, is a species of stage fright to which the greatest orators have been subject. In our opinion it may be easily cured. It arises from the patient attempting a task beyond his powers. Your unpractised speaker seems to think that the moment he rises to his feet it will be expected from him that he shall pass suddenly out of the ordinary conversational sphere and soar into the regions of pure literature. He makes an attempt to round his sentences, to be didactic, or even worse,—funny. Of all the tribe of sucking Ciceros, save us from the would-be-funny man. It is scarcely necessary to say that, in nine cases out of ten, the aspirant for oratorical hero-ship blossoms into a verbose Icarus, the waxen fastenings of whose wings melt in the stare of many eyes when he falls flop into the sea of ridicule. This should not be, for the most ordinary, imperfectly educated mechanic, describing the processes of his trade, is able to give you a lucid account of the means by which he arrives at a given end. It never enters his mind that it is expected of him that he shall make a brilliant speech, and, being perfect master of his subject, he is sparing of details; hence you go away impressed with the idea that he has not told you all he knows, but rather that he knows much more than he has told. We have used this homely illustration advisedly, because we believe the whole art of public speaking, especially after-dinner, to lie in the one word—simplicity. We will take, for example, an ordinary Freemason, belonging to the middle classes of life. Chance has made his career a business one, occupation has debarred him from much study. Suddenly we find him called on to return thanks for the visitors at a Masonic banquet. He knows that a speech is expected from him, and he feels as if he should like to change places with Korah, whom the earth swallowed up—at least it is so stated in the Mosaic record. The purgatory of a song having been gone through, the fatal moment arrives, and we behold our brother upon his legs. After a few preliminary splutters, he tells us that he has been into many Lodges, but he has never, in the whole course of his Masonic career, seen the working conducted as it has been in this particular instance. He is very much obliged to the brother who brought him, and he generally concludes with the feeble joke that he will come again as often as he is invited. That, brethren, is an example, as you know, of an ordinary after-dinner Masonic speech; as a speech, we may say it is not good; as a specimen of taste, it is execrable. Why is this? Simply because it never strikes our brother that what he really feels about the matter in hand, expressed in the terms of his daily conversation, would be acceptable under the circumstances.

If you will observe the practice of John Bright, admittedly the finest orator England at present possesses, you will see that he differs from ordinary public speakers, particularly in so far as he is more natural. He never goes out of his way to be rhetorical. Speaking, as he mostly does, on subjects of imperial interest, his thoughts naturally flow along high levels, but whenever the subject admits of what we may call the domestic treatment, you will find Mr. Bright speaking just such a speech as might be uttered at any man's fireside. Talleyrand said, that "speech was given to man for the purpose of concealing his thoughts." Many after-dinner speakers pay unintentional homage to the great French cynic, by confirming his epigram in their unfortunate practice. For ourselves, not only do we not think that speech was given to man that he might conceal his thoughts, but we think the mere assertion stupid and misleading; and truly characteristic of the age of kites and pigeons when it took its rise. On the other hand, we believe that under every man's nature, however apparently unemotional, there exists a fund of incipient heroism, and a vein of tenderness too often unworked. It is all very well to be hard and cold, whilst we are driving our bargains or working at our handicrafts, but after the ledger is put on the shelf, or the tools laid by for the night, where is the man who does not thrill with joy when he sees his youngsters happily at play, or sleeping quietly in their little white beds? We do not advocate that what are called the more sacred feelings of the heart should be soiled by contact with rough natures or mocking laughter. God forbid! What we do say is, that the whole art of successful oratory, and more especially of after-dinner speaking, lies in uttering, in simple, unaffected language, the thoughts that arise in the mind. As it is given to but few men to be great poets, so it is given to but few geniuses to be great orators. A noble, passionate style is born with some men, and such alone stir assemblies by the mere modulation of the voice. They are men of extraordinarily sensitive natures, who have the delicate pitch of a fine musical instrument. They are played upon, and affected by the passions of a crowd, as much, if not more, than they affect in turn. Watch them closely, and you will perceive that their great successes are made by merely acting as the vocal organ of what the crowd thinks. Was it not Mr. Gladstone who said that "the orator takes up in mist what he flings back in shower?" Shortly, then, it has been our ill fortune to listen, from time to time, to a great deal of very bad after-dinner speaking. We assert, moreover, that at present few of our countrymen of the middle class are much better than intolerable bores when they attempt to think aloud whilst in an upright position, and in presence of their fellow men. This arises because they attempt too much. If we may be permitted to respectfully suggest a few rules, they will be—Let no man speak but when he has something to say. The simplest and least conventional forms of speech are always the best. Never be frightened lest natural emotion should produce laughter,—it never will; and, above all, avoid being funny. When you feel nervous, keep on. We were nervous ourselves once, but that time, alas! is too long ago—in such a beautiful green world as this—to be recalled with pleasure.

BROTHERHOOD!

IN that one word what sympathetic associations arise. How the mind at once revels in benevolent reflections, and anticipates the felicity of that reciprocity of fraternal affection which links humanity together. Brotherly love is a very sacred tie, that should always be deemed a holy bond, and one that will help us to bear each others burdens and share each others joys. This is the basis upon which the brotherhood of Freemasons has been founded, and to extend its aims and principles is one of the great objects for which this Journal has been inaugurated. The leading elements of power that should guide every association should be to awaken the human mind, and to give to men of all classes consciousness of their intellectual and moral power to communicate knowledge of a useful and quickening character, to encourage men in thinking with freedom and vigour, to inspire an ardent love of truth and justice.

All such associations are worthy of support and patronage; while such as are designed or adapted to depress the human intellect, to make it dependent and servile, to keep it where it is, to give a limited amount of knowledge, but not to give an impulse to the onward motion of men's thoughts and aspirations. All such unions, however benevolent their professions, should be regarded as among the foes of the community, and as obstructions to the welfare of society. It is these kinds of clubs and unions which weaken in men the motives to exertion, which offer a bounty to idleness, and make beggary as profitable as labour.

On these social questions the present age admits and requires a more extensive teaching than formerly. An intellectual activity that shall be cheered by benevolence and social kindness, an active sympathy that shall know no alien, but become as far diffused as "fancy's wing can travel, oblivious of its own delight if aught that breathes is wretched." By the aid of brotherhood, we obtain a large intercourse with other minds, which cannot but become a valuable acquisition for the enlightenment and elevation of our own. A more genial and generous spirit is wanted in the nation. We need reform in our political and social institutions, in our habits, our feelings and our characters. Dark and fearful are the various contests that rage all around for wealth and power. Far as the mental eye can sweep the social horizon, there is to be seen an amount of sin, sorrow, shame, and crime, that requires all the religious, moral and mental agencies to stem its onward progress; yet there is no need for despair.

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Influences are at work that will subdue those evils if they cannot eradicate them. There may be in existence a vital power and energy which will hold on while the world continues, ever realizing larger amounts of happiness.

National spirit, allowed its free scope by institutions, is a pledge for such progress, which, for aught that appears, may be eternal and unbounded. In the growing intelligence of the great masses of society, we have a promise of progress for our own country, and its influence upon the world. A further sign of improvement is exhibited in the advance of more extended feelings of common interest among all the different grades of the industrial classes. The gulfs of separation are not, by any means, so wide as they were. The identity of interests of the various orders, who live by trade and labour, is presenting itself to people's minds in a more distinct light and impressive form than heretofore. On every hand the great body of the people are more and more thinking for themselves, and cultivating their own powers and faculties.

The literary and social institutions that are rising everywhere throughout the land are so many centres of light and knowledge, radiating and exercising an useful and glorious influence, the value of which cannot be measured by the exact numbers of subscribers to these institutions, or the amount of funds raised.

These facts, therefore, should leave no doubt, or cast any gloom upon the minds of those who have faith in the ultimate destiny of an enlightened humanity.

OUR BRETHREN IN THE WEST.

"FIRST in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen," runs the legend, no less trite than true, that describes the brave soldier, the sincere patriot, the unambitious statesman, the Christian gentleman, and the good Mason, George Washington.

Nearly half a century ago, on the summit of an eminence overlooking the broad bosom of the Potomac, and surrounded by the outlines of an embryo city, was laid the first stone of a grand national monument, to perpetuate the glory of a great and good man. Surrounded by the dignitaries, civil and military, of the young republic, and distinguished representatives of many lands, the Grand Lodge of the United States, assisted by a numerous Masonic delegation, officiated, with all the pomp and pageantry incident to a great national event. The glowing records of that day's celebration have long since passed into the pages of history, but history fails to record the sequel. It may not be amiss to recall the following extract from the address of an illustrious statesman and worthy brother, long since exalted to the General Grand Chapter above. Lay the corner-stone of a monument which shall adequately bespeak the gratitude of the American people to the illustrious father of his country. Build it to the skies; you cannot outreach the loftiness of his principles! Found it upon the massive and eternal rock; you cannot make it more enduring than his fame! Construct it of the peerless Parian marble; you cannot make it purer than his life! Exhaust upon it the rules and principles of ancient and modern art; you cannot make it more proportionate than his character!" The stone was laid, and the work commenced. Towards its completion a memorial block of marble or granite was furnished by almost every nation in the world. From an enormous base, forming the centre of a beautiful circle of Corinthian columns, arose, some hundred feet, the proportions of a majestic shaft. A generation has almost passed away, and to-day, looming up in the midst of the nation's capital—the "City of Magnificent Distances," or as the "outs" are wont to term it, the "City of Magnificent Plundering,"—stands the neglected, unfinished and almost forgotten Washington monument, "Looking," as described by an English writer on America, "like the wreck of an old Spanish windmill," a reproach to the nation, an eyesore to every honest American, a lame and impotent conclusion to a great undertaking, and a standing verification of the ingratitude of republics. Two years more will bring to Americans the one hundreth anniversary of their independence. Extensive preparations to commemorate that event, by an international exhibition at Philadelphia, and appropriate centennial celebrations throughout the Union, are already on foot. Amid all the grand projects and prospects for national jubilee and glorification, not a single word of suggestion is heard to complete the nation's tribute to him who, of all others, was mainly instrumental in giving it birth. Is it not time that this monument should be either finished, or, for the credit of our Transatlantic brethren, pulled down, and all trace of its existence obliterated?

Masonry is doing an incalculable amount of good in the U.S. In no quarter of the globe is its field of operations so unrestricted; side by side with the announcement of the installation of his Grace the Duke of Abercorn, as G.M. of the Freemasons of Ireland, in the *Times* of Thursday, we regret to see despatches stating that the city of New Orleans is placed under military control. It is only a few days since we read, with supreme satisfaction, of a general grand encampment of Knights Templar at New Orleans, which turned out to be a most brilliant and imposing affair. It brought together, in that city, thousands of men from all sections of the country, representing fairly the best citizens, and all shades of political sentiment. The State of Louisiana, of which New Orleans is the capital, is the political cauldron of the South, and has been kept pretty much at boiling point since the close of the war. Nor is it to be wondered at when we consider the reckless and oppressive system of misgovernment to which its people have been subjected at the hands of ignorant negroes and unscrupulous white adventurers. The circumstances under which this meeting assembled gave its proceedings unusual interest, and created universal desire to hear what the Sir Knights would have to say about the real condition of things in Louisana. Every city throughout the country was certain to get the truth from the returning Sir Knights, and those who knew predicted a great change of opinion and feeling in relation to the condition of the permanent white population of the southern States. Our brethren met good people in New Orleans, as pure and patriotic, as worthy of their confidence, as deserving of their sympathy, as could be found in any city of the north, and, knowing this to be case, we are confident that the result cannot fail to be highly beneficial to both sections in the mutual good understanding that is certain to follow. We have heard before to-day of the influence of Masonry in national affairs, and consequently are not surprised to learn that the suggestions of coercion made to the government by the military authorities, who have just assumed the direction of affairs, have met with universal and deserved condemnation. The meeting of good and true men, for a pure purpose, divested of all prejudice and partizan feeling, can and will do more to restore kind feelings between the two sections than all the compulsory laws that ever have been or ever will be enacted.

We shall watch, with interest, the course of events in Louisiana. Meantime, in the name and interests of that great and "wide-spread community for the extension of human sympathy and human brotherhood, embracing myriads of men of all nations and of all creeds, in one common bond of amity," let us wish peace and goodwill to the countrymen of George Washington, who was, of all men, a shining light unto Masons. Our American brethren are numerous, enterprising, generous and wealthy. They would scarcely miss the means required to complete the structure commenced by their predecessors; we have, therefore, no fear that, as English Masons, we shall be misunderstood in venturing to suggest to our brethren in the West that *they* finish the Washington Monument.

A meeting of the Provisional Committee of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE PUBLISHING COMPANY will be shortly held, with a view to making a first allotment of shares. Under the circumstances, we need make no apology for drawing the attention of our readers thereto. There may be many members of the Craft who are anxious to promote the success of an organ whose sole object is to advance the interests of Freemasonry. We advise, therefore, any of our readers who may desire to take shares, to send in their application to the Bankers, London and County Bank, Aldersgate Street Branch, at the earliest opportunity. Forms may be obtained from the General Manager of the Company, 67 Barbican, E.C.

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THE TRUE HISTORICAL ASPECT OF THE "RELIGIOUS AND MILITARY" ORDER OF THE TEMPLE; *ci-devant* "*MASONIC.*"

By WALTER SPENCER, F.R.G.S., Member of the International Congress of Orientalists, &c. &c.

OF affiliated Masonic Orders, or *side degrees*, there has been none more honourable than that of "Masonic Knights Templar." A change was effected in its constitution upon the installation as Grand Master, of the Heir-Apparent, in full conclave of Knights from all parts of the kingdom, with a ceremonial memorable from traditions and surroundings as well as from the evident earnestness imparted to it by the Prince.

In their main features, the remodelled Statutes have reverted to the constitution of antiquity, and have discontinued the use of the prefix "Masonic," which during more than a century, marked the transition from enforced obscurity to reviving splendour. Theoretically, the Cross of the Order has ever conferred a title to chivalry (anciently "nobility"); now—the quasi-official acknowledgment implied in the bestowal of Crosses upon some of the chief potentates of Europe, has ratified its title to honour. Being constituted a *Brotherhood of Gentlemen, i.e.* of men whose culture and instincts associated for the furtherance of public welfare, render their Order a social engine of weight and standing, it is, theoretically, the pride and duty of all, from the Grand Master to the youngest Companion, to serve the Order to the best of their ability, *for the love of the Order*, ennobled by common disinterestedness.

This is true CHIVALRY; not mediæval nor Quixotic, but conceived in the highest instinct of our age, as a counterpoise to the worship of Mammon and the love of self. This differentiates the Temple from *Universal Masonry*—that general bond, which harmonising men of every creed and status, necessarily perpetuates its interests by appealing to selfish aspirations—tempting *all* to office after office, attended by renewal of honours. The aim of the Temple is that of Masonry; but, as in olden times its individuals were bound to poverty and chastity, even so now *abnegation* is required of them. The means employed cannot be "Universality." The Temple marshals but one corps in the van of progress, and its creed is "Christianity," which it heralds as the true civiliser, the surest reformer and the swiftest accelerator of imperfect manhood towards the millennium of love. Both have their mission, but the Templar is the farther from his goal, and not yet in this world can he expect reward.

In the United States a more methodical organisation, and more definite plans have rendered the Order more powerful than here; not to be left out of account by public men, whose shifty expediency may invite retribution from a "public opinion," stimulated by higher principle. In Republic and Kingdom Statutes may differ, but principles are the same—unselfish adhesion to the Order, respect for its constituents, and pride in its name. These evidently inspire our Grand Master and Great Prior, and are worthy of the esteemed Officers and Companions who have begun to agitate for return to "Masonic" usages, for whose consideration I subjoin the following précis:—

The tale of the atrocious and too successful plot laid by the Pope and the King of France, which brought about the ruin of the Order in A.D. 1307, of the sufferings and heroic martyrdom of its chiefs, is too well known to need recapitulation; but this does not close its history. I now quote from "The History," by James Burnes, LL.D., F.R.S., Knight of the Royal Guelphic Order, &c., &c., a distinguished Knight Templar:—"*The Brotherhood was not suppressed, and there has been a succession of Knights Templar from the twelfth century down to these days; the chain of transmission is perfect. Jacques de Molay, Grand Master, anticipating his martyrdom, appointed, as his successor, Johannes Marcus Larmenius, of Jerusalem, and from that time there has been a regular line. The Charter of Transmission, with the signatures of the various chiefs, is still preserved.*" Here follows a list of the Grand Masters, according to the signatures of the Charter, from Larmenius onward, comprehending the great *Du Guesclin*, *Maine*, *Condé* and *Conti*. The Grand Mastership, after the French Revolution, was preserved in the person of Bernard Raymond Fabré-Palaprat, and by him transmitted to Sir Sydney Smith, whose *nom de guerre*, "Cœur de Lion," acquired in the Levant, specially pointed him out as the most worthy of Christian Knights for that eminent station.

The head-quarters of the Order remained at Paris, but the lamentable prevalence, since 1830, of faction and political incertitude in that city of ferment, whose baleful influence other institutions have not escaped, proved stifling to the spirit of the Order, and, so far as I can ascertain, it either languished in retirement or became extinct. The dignity of Grand Prior in this country was supported by the Duke of Sussex, on whose shoulders, at Sir Sydney's death, and failing regular succession, the mantle of Grand Master would have appropriately descended. Autograph endorsements of his, upon diplomas of the Order issued from Paris, are in my possession. Whether manifold occupations afterwards impeded the regular discharge of his functions, I know not, but numerous Encampments of Knights Templar, dating from before the days of Grand Master Dunckerly (Fitz-George), were certainly under his command. The origin of these latter is involved in obscurity; there can be little doubt that, in this as in other countries, fragments of the Order perpetuated in secret a shadowy existence, unveiled on the advent of propitious days at various centres, and marshalled in due time under a Royal banner. Of the traditions and functions of the Duke, the present Grand Master is the natural heir, and details of privilege should give way to Royal prerogative. The *spirit* of the Charter animates the Order, it's *text* is but an antiquarian curiosity; it still survives, and could find no such legitimate owner as H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

And now, close critics of the hard cynical stamp, and clever iconoclasts of the *Findel* School, will smile and say—"This is a pretty story, and though the existence of the Charter be not disputed, we have condemned it long since for a forgery." Fortunately, the use of reason, is not confined to the cynical critic or patriotic iconoclast: and I will take the liberty to state and examine the charges brought against the Charter, in vindication of its authenticity.*

The first, and, as will appear, the only noteworthy attack, is made by M. Clavel, in his *Histoire pittoresque de la Franc-Maçonnerie, &c. Paris:* 1843, *p* 215. After stating that he has before him original documents to the following purport, and that Dr. Morrison, of Greenfield, intended to publish them, he informs us: "that an association for abominable purposes, was formed at the Court of Louis XIV., was suppressed by that monarch, and revived by Philippe d'Orleans in 1705, for political ends. That an Italian Jesuit then forged the Charter with the signatures of the Grand Masters, that a Minute Book was commenced, which was kept up by succeeding Grand Masters. That the Order attempted to open communication with the surviving branch of the Templars (the Order of Christ), in Portugal, but was met with scorn by King John V., who arrested its envoys. That on the death of Grand Master the Duc de Cossé-Brissac, in the Revolution, an article of his furniture containing the Charter and other documents, was purchased by his physician, who showed them to a friend and to Fabré-Palaprat, and that this suggested a revival." He adds that the founders at once took to manufacturing relics in support of the documents in their possession; that burnt bones from the pyre of *De Molay*, were fabricated by Leblond and Fabré, that a copper reliquiary and other things, were bought by Leblond of a marine-store-dealer, that a damascened iron casque was stolen by Arnal from a government depot, &c., &c.

The story as told by Clavel reads glibly and smooth; let us see whether such confident assertion has been supported by, or is capable of proof.

Firstly, as general premises, I would remark that the readers of the pages of Clavel must be struck with that author's proficiency in the art of book-making, and the evident adaptation of his wares "to sell." I am far from finding fault with this propensity, but must point out that a good anecdote-monger and a sprightly cynic does not always stick at trifles, when his knowledge or judgement is at fault; that his aptitude for drawing upon imagination must be sometimes gratified at the expense of truth; that he can hardly fail to pass off some fables for facts, or unwittingly to recount some facts as fables. Moreover, it must be remembered, and I shall subsequently have more to say in that connection, that the main and ostensible cause of the downfall of the Order in the 14th

* See also *Sketch of the Knights Templar, &c. By Richard Woof, F.S.A.* London. 1864.

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century, was its reputed dissent from the tenets of the Roman See. This drew down upon it the same unsparing hostility that exterminated the Waldenses and Albigenses; the agents of that hostility are not always visible, and the open revival of an Order suppressed under such circumstances would be necessarily about the bitterest pill which the Court of the Supreme Pontiff could have to swallow. Again, it would seem that M. Clavel in his patent desire to ruin the revived Order in the estimation of the reader whom his easy and flippant style may have attracted, has not escaped the pitfall which has snared many an author, especially amongst French critics,—*he states too much*. I think the bias declared in his assertions may be taken as proved.

To begin with, he is unable to accuse Fabré-Palaprat and his compeers of the forgery of the Charter; and, in order to find a false original for the Society, he remounts to the days of Louis XIV. What is his account of its object? Its identity with the accusation against the martyrs strikes us, and whilst we ponder on the improbability, even on the authority of Bussé-Rabutin, of *an Order being founded* for such a purpose, we remember that similar charges have been ever the handy weapon of a ruling hierarchy, and that even the apostolic gatherings of the founders of our faith, did not escape it from the mouths of the heathen priesthood. To account for the apparent genuineness of the Charter, with its antique character, its monkish and illuminated Gothic border, he ascends to the days of Philippe d'Orleans (suggested, may be, by the first signature in the only remaining Statute-book), and finds a convenient Italian Jesuit, an excellent draughtsman for the purpose. Supposing, however, such to have been the case: as M. Clavel was not cotemporary with that Grand Master, nor his confidant, and as it is highly improbable (if the association were really re-established as he states, for occult political ends), that the fact of the forgery should have been transmitted to posterity, to the infamy of the concoctors; whence did M. Clavel derive that link in his circumstantial narrative? Was it from Dr. Morrison of Greenfield, who, as he says, was about to publish his documentary evidence? I fear not, I have many works upon the Temple, once the property of that gentleman; I have seen a correspondence of his for years on that and other subjects, and neither in the letters, nor in even in a marginal note, is there anything which supports M. Clavel's implication. Dr. Morrison was known equally with Dr. Burnes, as versed in the history of the Order; Clavel wrote when it was lapsing into chaos, and the circulation of his attractively-illustrated work would for the time distance all contradiction. Even were the assertions based on Dr. Morrison's authority, it would not establish improbabilities; and where are the interesting documents, which, when published, were to prove so much?

The unsuccessful attempt to correspond with the Order of Christ, is an unfortunate instance for M. Clavel, being evidently adduced in support of his calumny. When examined, it will tell the other way. The Templars of Portugal: transformed or incorporated into the Order of Christ, preserved none of the spirit of their illustrious origin, but had become simply a State incumbrance on the Kings of Portugal, willing slaves of the Popes. The Order which dared to make such an attempt must have been notorious in France; how then, if its very existence involved a falsehood, was it tolerated or connived at by the King of that country? Its impudent envoys to Portugal must have had no small faith in its pretensions, which, if palpably fictitious, merited nothing but contempt; we are told, however, by M. Clavel, that a royal order was issued for their arrest, that one was captured and *transported to Africa*, where he died.

These bits of history do not fit well into the narrative. The details subsequent to the death of the Duc de Cossé Brissac were, M. Clavel implies, furnished by Dr. Morrison, with much circumstantiality; and certainly the respectable physicians, advocates and others, who are accused of manufacturing martyrs' bones, thieving from arsenals, &c., &c., must have been a set of blackguards, if capable of a tithe of what is thus laid to their charge.

As we pull up, we reflect that nothing is easier than to vilify, especially after the lapse of years; and, in a general way, it seems to come as easy to M. Clavel, as to deify does to a greater author with whom we are better acquainted. To remove the impression once made, is not so easy; though, in this case, the task is by no means so difficult as would be that of pulling down the Great Frederick from his plinth.

I should be quite content to stake the zealous adhesion of noble Sir Sydney Smith, and of keen Dr. Burnes, against the two gross libels of M. Clavel, even could they be supported by the documents of Dr. Morrison.

The other scoffers at the Charter have fallen into the error which Dr. Findel and the hyper-critical school are so fond of pointing out in English *Masonic* authors. They have accepted and repeated Clavel's assertions *without further examination*. The only one I deem noteworthy is that made by our brethren of Scotland, in their "Statutes of the Religious and Military Order of the Temple," published in 1843. Their origin and succession is eminently respectable, but they felt sorely wounded by a passage which appears in the Charter of Larmenius. . . . "*Decreto e suprema mihi auctoritate, Scotos Templarios Ordinis desertores, anathemate percussos, illosque et Fratres Sancti Johannis Hierosolymæ, dominiorum Militiæ spoliatores (quibus apud Deum misericordia) extra gyrum Templi nunc et in futurum, volo, dico et jubeo.*" They therefore, although perceiving the independent testimony conveyed to their story of their own origin, adopt Clavel's *exposure*, and proceed—"The author (of the Charter) has fatally exposed himself by making Larmenius excommunicate the Knights of St. John. How could that brotherhood, who never were within the pale of the Temple, be driven from it?"

I have before adverted to *hyper*-criticism, and record my conviction that more honest truths are endangered than falsehoods exposed thereby. Of course it is extremely clever, and it serves a purpose, which is too frequently the bias, conscious or unconscious, of the critic's mind. It was clever of the Spanish Bishops to demonstrate that Columbus's statements were moonshine, it illustrated their acumen, and showed their knowledge of Holy Writ; but the world was round notwithstanding. I see nothing in the exclusion from fellowship of the sister and rival Order, with which individual Knights had from the beginning exchanged mutual hospitality, but a natural outburst of wrath on its enrichment at the expense of the martyred Templars.

I have also seen it objected that the signature of *Du Guesclin* is written *Du Guerelin*, and that that hero could not in fact write at all. But I submit that there are innumerable mediæval MSS. where the letter "s" is undistinguishable from "r," and that the statement against Du Guesclin is only susceptible of negative proof.

The mission of the Order, illustrating one of those remarkable retributive prophecies, which are the enigmas of history; its lofty aspirations and mortal antagonism to the Roman See, I will endeavour to unfold in a future Number. I would merely add here, that in presence of the large proportion of intelligent and instructed members of the Order to be found in this country, I endeavour, above all, to avoid the suspicion of dogmatising, and am emboldened to record my opinions only by reliance upon the very great facilities I have had for making myself acquainted with the subject. All opinions demand a like respect, and risk a like analysis; I would not have mine give offence to any companion of the Order; the badge we wear is the symbol of Charity as well as of martyrdom.

The following paragraph, from the *Detroit Evening News*, should be ventilated, as it raises a question as interesting to English Masons as to our American brothers.

The State Grand Lodge of coloured Masons, met at Jackson, this week. The principal topic of public interest was relative to recognition by the white folks. The committee, appointed a year ago, to petition the Grand Lodge (white), reported that they had performed that duty, and that the Grand Lodge had passed a resolution affirming exclusive jurisdiction for over 30 years, as a reason for refusing recognition. This Grand Lodge (coloured) considers this action to be contrary to the action taken in the case of a Lodge holding a warrant from the Grand Lodge. The coloured Masons are quite confident that in time this recognition will be given as an act of justice. The following officers were elected:—

M. W. G. M.—Isaac Burdine, Ypsilanti.
D. G. D.—Richard Stewart, Cass county.
G. S. W.—Wm. R. Hackley, Niles.
G. J. W.—John A. Freemann, Ann Arbor.
G. Sec.—T. J. Martin, Dowagtac.

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REVIEWS.

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All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, 67 Barbican, E.C.

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Memorials of the Masonic Union of A.D. 1813. Consisting of an Introduction on Freemasonry in England; the Articles of Union; Constitutions of the United Grand Lodge of England, A.D. 1815, and other Official Documents; a List of Lodges under the Grand Lodge of England, with their numbers, immediately before, and after the Union, &c. Compiled and arranged by William James Hughan, Past Senior Grand Deacon of England; Representative of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, &c., &c., &c. Also, an exact reprint of Dr. Dassigny's "Serious and Impartial Inquiry," which contains the earliest known reference to Royal Arch Masonry. London: Chatto and Windus, Piccadilly. Truro: William Lake, Princes Street. Philadelphia (U.S.A.): Charles Eugene Meyer, 722 Arch Street. 1874.

It is hardly necessary to discuss the matter contained in these pages, for every Mason is more or less familiar with the greater portion of the contents. Yet, in justice to the compiler, who has evidently spared no pains in the selection and arrangement of his materials, we feel bound to offer him our hearty and fraternal congratulations on the success which has attended his efforts. Few people are aware of the labour entailed in collating perfectly trustworthy information on any subject; fewer still of the difficulties which a compiler experiences in compressing such information within reasonable and readable limits. All these difficulties, however, have been vanquished, and the result is a volume which, it is no mere figure of speech to say, should be in the possession of every member of the Fraternity.

The first or introductory portion of these memorials is a succinct and admirably lucid account of Freemasonry, from the Constitution of the first Grand Lodge in England in 1717, down to the Union, in 1813, of the two Grand Lodges, respectively known as the Grand Lodge of the Society of Free and Accepted Freemasons under the Constitution of England, and the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of England according to the Old Institutions. The conference which led to, and the ceremonial observed at this Union are fully described; the articles of the Union itself being printed in extenso. Part the Second comprises the Constitutions of the antient fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, including the Charges of a Freemason, extracted from the ancient records of Lodges beyond sea, and of those in England, Scotland, and Ireland; the regulations for the government of the Grand Lodge during the time of public business and of Private Lodges, of Lodges within the London district, of Country Lodges in districts, and of Military Lodges, together with such other regulations as are appointed to be observed by the several degrees of the Craft, on the proposal of members, the constitution of New Lodges, &c., and in connection with the transaction of business, regalia, public ceremonies, and Masonic funerals. These were first published in 1815. Then follows a reprint of the "Serious and Impartial Inquiry," by Dr. Fifield Dassigny, printed in Dublin 1744, a valuable and important book, bearing, as it does, on the subject of Royal Arch Masonry. This "Inquiry" had been lost for a century, all attempts to discover a copy having failed till quite recently. Then follows a list of Lodges, A.D. 1874, arranged in tabular form, so that the reader may see, at a glance, those Lodges on the Roll of the United Grand Lodge of England, A.D. 1814, their numerical position in 1813, prior to the Union, according as they were under the "Grand Lodge of England," (Moderns) or the "Grand Lodge of England, according to the Old Institutions," (Ancients) with the years when the former were constituted, the alterations made in 1832 and 1863, and the order of those still in existence in 1874.

We trust this brief description of the contents of this volume will serve to convey to our readers a pretty accurate idea of its value. It certainly bears out what we said in the beginning of this notice, as to the labour attending the compilation of such important materials. We have already offered Brother Hughan our very sincere congratulations on his success, and we can only express, in conclusion, our firm conviction that his work will meet with that cordial reception from the whole Craft, which it unquestionably deserves at their hands.

History of the Lodge of Tranquillity, No. 185, *from its origin to the present time.* By JOHN CONSTABLE, W.M., with a preface by W. J. HUGHAN, P.M. 131. London: Charles Skipper and East. 1874.

THE history of this Lodge, uneventful as it is, is, notwithstanding, well worthy of preservation, and our thanks are due to the able historian who has well performed his task, and to Bro. Hughan for his carefully written preface, which lightly and agreeably skims the surface of our ancient historic records. The Lodge of Tranquillity, as many of our readers know, received its dispensation from the so-called "Ancient Grand Lodge of Freemasons," which was founded early in the last century, by some malcontents who seceded from the Grand Lodge of England. It is not our business just now to trace the history of this remarkable heresy in Masonry, which is very clearly sketched by Bro. Constable, who traces it from the year 1739 to 1813, when harmony was restored to the English Masonic world. Happily, in these times there is no danger of any disturbance of our peace; Masons are united in the bonds of a perfect brotherhood, and are proud to own allegiance to the Grand Lodge, which exercises sway over the Craft. The Lodge of Tranquillity was founded on the 20th December 1787, the Earl of Antrim being Grand Master of the "Ancient Grand Lodge." Its early career was comparatively humble and unobtrusive, and from the quaint extracts which are given from the Minute Books we infer that some of the successive secretaries lacked culture. Oddly enough the Lodge, which has since had so much reason to be proud of its Jewish brethren, passed a resolution in the year 1791 absolutely excluding any candidate of the Hebrew persuasion. This resolution was agreed to in direct violation of the grand principles upon which the Order is founded. That it originated in narrow bigotry, unworthy of Freemasons, few will deny, but in those days toleration was imperfectly understood, even by the Masonic brotherhood. We regret extremely that several volumes of the minute books of this period are lost, and that we have no record of the rescinding of this obnoxious bye law. But in 1849 the almost moribund Lodge was resuscitated by Jewish brethren, who since that time have been amongst its most active and able members. Bro. Joseph Abrahams has the honour of having founded the Benevolent Fund of the Lodge, which now reaches the respectable sum of £600, invested in 3 per cent. consols; since 1856 £650 has been paid away to deserving brothers, and notwithstanding that the application of the fund is confined to members of the Lodge, the brethren have not forgotten the general Masonic charities, to which they have largely subscribed. Amongst the members of the Hebrew persuasion who have distinguished themselves in the Lodge of Tranquillity we may mention Bro. Alex. Levy, P.M., the seconder of Bro. Abrahams's motion for founding the Benevolent Fund, Bro. Saul Solomon, who greatly distinguished himself when filling the office of W. M., Bros. Barnet Moss, D. Lazarus, and Joseph Abrahams. The Lodge, in fact, is decidedly Jewish, and we cannot but congratulate it upon the fact that these distinguished Masons with their colleagues have, in furthering the interests of the Lodge of Tranquillity, fulfilled the Golden rule. Indeed, they have returned good for the evil intended their race by the misguided brothers who passed the excluding resolution to which we have referred.

Our space forbids us to follow the history of this Lodge further, and, in conclusion, we cordially recommend the work to our readers.

Who's Who, in 1875; A. H. Baily and Co. Cornhill.

This handy little volume has again made its appearance. The contents are as completely arranged as ever, and as a work of reference it cannot but be acceptable. This year is, we believe, the 27th of its issue, which shows the appreciation in which it is held by the public.

MAGAZINES OF THE MONTH.

SECOND NOTICE.

Baily will never want for readers, its contents are so varied and interesting, so genuinely sportsmanlike in tone, and so thoroughly English. Among the contributors, too, we often meet with such well-known *noms de plume* as "Amphion," "Old Calabar," &c. In the present number there is an admirable paper, by our "Stale Contributor," on the subject of the "Irrepressible Savage," our own English Savage, who has been so often and so prominently before the public of late in connection with those truly Christian practices of wife-beating and kicking men to death. The writer evidently regrets the decline of the ring, or, at all events, of the old English custom of settling differences in a manly stand-up fight. He seems to think that the knife and the knuckle-duster have superseded the fist in such cases, because this custom is so often strictly forbidden by the police. There is, perhaps, something in this suggestion, but we greatly fear the brutality lately displayed by the *protégés* of Mr. Peter Taylor, Taylor's Lambs we will call them, is inborn. There is a sketch of sport in Jamaica; while "Our Van," always cleverly driven, contains plenty of sharp criticism, and several recent jokes, interspersed among all kinds of hunting, and other appropriate news of the month.

Reviews of Sir A. Helps's "Social Pressure," by Mr. Thomas Hughes, of "The Greville Memoirs," by Mr. Stapleton, and a criticism of the critics' comments on the new Hamlet, are the leading features in *Macmillan*. We fully agree with the first, we heartily endorse even the severest comments in the second case, while as to the last we leave the judgment to the taste of our readers.

It were hardly too much to say that the present number of the *Gentleman's* is one of the best we have seen for months past. The first chapters of "Dear Lady Disdain," by Mr. Justin McCarthy, head

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the programme. It is early yet to judge of a novel when but two or three chapters have appeared, but we confess we have taken a great fancy to Mr. Christmas Pembroke and Miss Lyne. We think Mr. McCarthy will succeed in making much of these two personages. "Municipal Reform for London" will be found a hard nut to crack. Vested interests and rivalries will, doubtless, stop the way, yet the suggestions which are offered in this case are very sensible and very moderate; and some have the advantage of not being new. "The fighting capacity of Europe" is carefully written, and the warning to ourselves to see that our own naval and military power is what it ought to be, must not be lightly passed over. The notice of the late "Tom Hood" contains, we think, a just estimate of the deceased humourist's merits, while doing full justice to the gentleness and kindness of his disposition. "The Lucknow of to-day" will be read with great interest, recalling, as it does, the memory of the terrible events with which the city was associated during the Indian Mutiny. We have also the opening chapters of a new serial by Mr. Frank Percival —"Al Lya Sahib"—of which hereafter, when we have obtained a greater insight into the plot.

Fraser contains a paper on "German Home Life," evidently the first of a series of such. The subject of the present one will attract the attention of Materfamilias, the question being none other than "Servants." The writer, a lady, speaks with authority having, as she tells us, spent many years in different parts of Germany. She is, perhaps, a little too considerate towards our English domestics. An account of "The Early Kings of Norway," of the "Bayou Têche," a certain district in Louisiana, U.S., and of the Settlement of Vineland in New Jersey, by the founder, Charles K. Landis, offer many attractions to some readers. "Sir Charles Bell" is a carefully written biography of one of our greatest surgeons and physiologists. The Rev. S. Baring-Gould, whose *Yorkshire Oddities* made its appearance towards the end of last year, contributes a selection of "Quaint Corners of Mediæval Biography," and Mr. F. W. Newman continues his "Contrasts of Ancient and Modern History."

This month the *Contemporary* is somewhat dull reading, to all at least but those who affect the study of sociological and other kindred subjects. We may except, however, a paper by the late Count Montalembert, on "Rome and Spain," a well-argued essay by Mr. W. R. Greg, on the "Obligations of the Soil," and "Saxon Studies," by Julian Hawthorne, the study on this occasion being Dresden; certain of its streets, its markets, bridges, canals, smells, and much indeed of what Dresden is famous for among travellers.

Chambers's Journal possesses certain sterling merits which deserve to be noticed all the more because it rarely if ever stoops to flatter the public taste of the moment. A vast fund of sound information may be gleaned from its pages, and there are always some pleasantly written stories to enliven the quieter kind of literature which occupies so much of its space. "My adventures in the French War," "'Plain' People" and an "Adventure with a Leopard," may be quoted in evidence of what we have said.

The periodicals issued by the well known firm of Cassell, Petter and Galpin, are they not, in number, well nigh legion? in quality, excellent? *Cassell's Family Magazine*, which is merely a new and enlarged series of the familiar *Cassell's Magazine*, opens with "The Manchester Man," a new serial by Mr. G. Linnæus Banks, and contains many contributions of considerable merit, interspersed, at frequent intervals, with capital illustrations. The *Popular Educator*, *The Bible Educator*, *The Races of Mankind*, *Old and New London*, *The History of Protestantism*, and, for Sunday reading, *The Quiver*, all these are among the issues, weekly and monthly, of Messrs. Cassell and Co. All are worthy of commendation, nor ought we, perhaps, to omit mention of *Little Folks*, which, this month, appears in an enlarged form, but at the same price. We cannot help thinking that our little English folks will rejoice at this announcement, for the periodical is one of the best adapted for young people which it has been our good fortune to read.

Once a Week is simply frightful in the matter of illustration, some of the contributions, however, are passable.

The new volume of *Cornhill* celebrates the opening of the year with a new story, "Miss Angel," the prominent character being Angelica Kauffmann. We commend, besides this, Mr. Black's "Three Feathers" to the notice of our readers, an article "On people who *will* talk;" written pleasantly, and with truth, and an account of "The Love and Marriage of Catherine de Bourbon," the sister of Henri IV. of France, the hero of Ivry, Arques, and other famous battles.

We are very partial to *Tinsley's*. The contributors include several well known writers, of whom Mr. Farjeon alone is a tower of strength. He contributes the opening chapter of "Love's Victory"—a new story in succession to "Jessie Trim," concluded last month. Besides this, there are three other serials, of which one, "With Harp and Crown," is by the authors of "Ready-Money Mortiboy." We anticipate much pleasure from both these stories. Of minor contributions we have noted "The Old Cities of Belgium," "The Poetry of the Pike," and "Half the Penalty." We think the "Portrait of the British Matron" is considerably overdrawn. There are, doubtless, many such British Matrons, but it is not fair to apply this particular portrait generally.

Good Things, for old and young, has always enjoyed a certain amount of popularity. The present number is the first of a new series, to which we offer our best wishes, especially as one of the most prominent features in the list, "Puzzledom," directed by the late Tom Hood, will be continued under the auspices of his sister, Mrs. Broderip.

Though the *New Quarterly* is one of the newest of our Magazines, it has already secured for itself a high place among that class of periodicals. One of its chief features is that each number contains a complete novel, and, in the present issue, we find "The Mad Willoughbys," from the pen of the well-known author, Mrs. Lynn Linton. We may add that the story is in every way worthy of the author and the periodical in which it appears. There is, too, in the way of fiction, another, but shorter tale, by Mr. John Dangerfield, entitled "The Tragedy Queen." The materials are very slight, but the manner in which the story is told is very pleasing. Besides these, we have noticed in particular the opening article, by Mr. Lewis Parker, on "Canada, an Emigrant's Journal." As the subject of emigration has been latterly attracting much notice, the experiences of one who has already settled in this most important colony cannot fail to excite interest; there is, likewise, a pleasantly written paper on English flower gardens, in which the writer, Mr. Archibald Banks, offers sundry excellent suggestions, while the rest of the contents are equally worthy the attention of our readers.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY NEWS.

FRIDAY.

We have commenced the new year, so far, with a more wholesome tone in the markets, but there are not wanting certain indications of a dulness in trade generally that conduces to flatness. The latest movement on the part of the Bank Directors, in reducing the rate of discount to 5 per cent., will, most probably, afford some ground for hoping that the stringency of the Money Market during the past few months has, at length, passed away, and that we may, therefore, look forward with confidence to a sounder policy in investment arrangements. The release of the dividends on Wednesday has added to the superfluous supply of ready money seeking employment, and on the open market discount business is being done at fully a half per cent. less than the chief establishment. The restoration of the monarchy in Spain, to which we briefly alluded last week, has now become an accomplished fact; and the new King has already commenced his journey. One effect of the sudden change in the political history of Spain, has been the sudden rebound of Spanish securities, which at one time were quoted 10 higher than the usual average. We do not mean to insinuate that, to a certain extent, this apparently favourable alteration is not justified by the circumstances. The national credit has yet to be fully restored before we should recommend any investment in these securities. It is said that some sort of pledge has been given that steps will be taken to place the external debt of the country on a satisfactory footing, and, for the sake of those concerned, we heartily hope it may. The unfortunate bondholders have been a long suffering and patiently abiding class, and if there is now to be a consideration of their claims, it will go far to establish something like a good feeling once more amongst the trading and commercial communities of Europe, who, in entering into engagements with the Spanish Government, did so in the belief that all its obligations would be faithfully observed. The condition of affairs in France is now causing some uneasiness, as the latest reports make mention of a spirit of disaffection towards the Government, which threatens to bring about changes which are not calculated to advance the best interests of the country, or, in other words, to promote that peace and harmony so essential to material progress.

The Board of Trade returns of mercantile statistics have just made their appearance, and furnish us with the usual statement of imports and exports, both for the month of December and for the whole of the past year. The figures undoubtedly show a considerable falling off in the value of the goods received and despatched. The conclusion to be arrived at is clearly the dormant state of our home industries, more particularly as concerns the iron trade, the extreme fluctuations in which have been particularly prominent during the past twelve months. If possible, we will endeavour on another occasion to return to this subject, and offer a few general remarks on the distinct bearing this branch of business has on our other commercial relations.

The English Funds have made steady progress this week, and are quoted at an advance.

Foreign bonds assumed a much stronger appearance until the horizon became clouded by the course of events in France; it is of course impossible to say how it will all end, but the fact remains clear, that the operations on the Bourse have, for the moment, become paralysed. Egyptian, Spanish and Turkish have, however, taken a firmer position in the market; since we last wrote, the difficulty in the latter case, as to the payment of the next coupon, having been got over with the Imperial Ottoman Bank.

English railways for the most part presented the most encouraging features of the week. The business on foot showing a general desire to take up many of the stocks that have recently been depressed by speculative sellers.

American Securities have not been extensively dealt in; Erie's are lower, but in other respects not much change is noted.

Telegraph Shares are only feebly supported. The variations, however, in these and miscellaneous enterprises are without feature.

The directors of the London and Westminster Bank have resolved to declare, at the next annual meeting, a dividend of 11 per cent. for the half-year ended the 31st December, making 21 per cent. for the year on the paid-up capital of £2,000,000. The surplus fund will now amount to about £1,014,000.

Two new iron-clad men-of-war are to be built for the Turkish Navy by Messrs. Samuda, of Blackwall.

It is rumoured that a new loan for Spain will shortly be introduced, but under all the circumstances we should be inclined to place little reliance on this statement.

The supply of coals this week on the London market having been in excess of the demand, a reduction of 2s per ton was submitted to.

CLUB HOUSE PLAYING CARDS.—Mogul Quality, picked 1s 3d per pack, 11s per dozen packs. De records 1s per pack, 11s per dozen packs. If by post 1½d per pack extra. Cards for Ecarté, Loo, Écu, Board, &c., Mogul Quality 1od per pack, 9s per dozen packs. London: W. W. Morgan, 27 Barbican, E.C.

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THE THEATRES, &c.

COVENT GARDEN.—At 7.0, THE VIVANDIERE. At 7.45, THE BABES IN THE WOOD.

DRURY LANE.—At 7.0, TEN OF 'EM. At 7.30, ALADDIN.

HAYMARKET.—At 7.30, OUR AMERICAN COUSIN and THE LOAN OF A LOVER.

ADELPHI.—At 7.0, THE PRAYER IN THE STORM and THE CHILDREN IN THE WOOD.

PRINCESS'S.—At 7.0, LOST IN LONDON and BEAUTY AND THE BEAST.

LYCEUM.—At 6.50, FISH OUT OF WATER. At 7.45, HAMLET.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.0, TWENTY MINUTES WITH A TIGER. AT 7.30, THE TWO ORPHANS.

STRAND.—At 7.0, INTRIGUE. At 7.30, OLD SAILORS. At 9.15, LOO AND THE PARTY WHO TOOK MISS.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 7.45, SWEETHEARTS and SOCIETY.

GAIETY.—AT 7.0, BENGAL TIGER. At 8.15, MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR.

GLOBE.—At 7.0, A PRETTY PIECE OF BUSINESS. At 8.0, BLUE BEARD.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.0, LEGACY LOVE. At 7.45, TWO ROSES. At 10, ROMULUS AND REMUS.

CHARING CROSS.—DRAWING THE LINE and THE NEW MAGDALEN.

OPERA COMIQUE.—At 7.0, WAR TO THE KNIFE. At 8.15, IXION RE-WHEELED.

COURT.—At 7.30, PEACOCK'S HOLIDAY. At 8.30, BRIGHTON.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.0, THE TWO BONNYCASTLES. At 7.45, WHITTINGTON.

CRITERION.—LES PRES SAINT GERVAIS, &c.

AMPHITHEATRE, HOLBORN.—At 7.0, CINDERELLA.

SURREY.—At 7.0, FORTY THIEVES.

PHILHARMONIC.—At 7.30, FARCE. At 8.10, LA FILLE DE MADAME ANGOT and the GREAT DORSTS.

ALEXANDRA, Park-street, Camden-town.—At 7.0, PERFECTION. At 8.15, VALENTINE AND ORSON.

HENGLER'S CIRQUE.—At 2.30 and 7.30, LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD.

SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE.—At 2.0 and 7.0. ALADDIN AND THE WONDERFUL LAMP.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Open Daily, PANTOMIME, AQUARIUM, PICTURE GALLERY, &c.

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EGYPTIAN HALL.—MASKELYNE AND COOKE, at 3.0 and 8.0.

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FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE

67 BARBICAN, E.C.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN EUROPE.

IN addressing a constituency composed of men of every shade of politics, the discussion of political questions is impossible. Yet are we not therefore debarred from laying before our readers a brief account of the present aspect of politics in Europe. The time for this is opportune. We are at the commencement of a new year, and at no other season can we better take stock of the political eventualities in store for us.

Home politics demand our first attention. Happily, as regards these there is everything to hope and nothing to fear. Our condition is a prosperous one, and, as far as can be seen, there is not the slightest prospect that the current of this prosperity will be in anywise disturbed. In a few weeks Parliament will re-assemble, when Her Majesty, in person or by deputy, will address her faithful Lords and Commons, telling the nature and extent of the legislative measures that will be submitted for their deliberation during the Session. The object of these several measures will, for the most part, be the improvement of our home government. Legal reform, the better organisation of our army and navy, and the question of local government and local taxation, will probably be the questions to which the attention of Parliament will be chiefly directed. But then, though they will doubtless give rise to long and animated debates, they are not, in one sense, burning questions. They will not create in us any feeling of uneasiness as to our relations with foreign powers. We cannot, of course, foresee what the morrow may bring forth, but present appearances justify the belief that another year of peace is in store for us, and that our commercial and industrial energies will be as great and as productive as ever.

If we turn our attention to the other powers of Europe, we shall find much to cause a feeling, if not of alarm, at all events of extreme uneasiness. The condition of our immediate friend and neighbour, France, is still unsettled, and there is every evidence that it will so continue, even if it does not become more unsettled still. The various political parties into which the country is divided—the Legitimists, the Orleanists, the Buonapartists, the Republicans—are absolutely irreconcilable; to that extent, indeed, that any form of government seems well nigh impossible. The strength of parties is such, that neither Monarchists nor Republicans can secure a working majority. Hence it is that every attempt to constitute the present provisional form of government becomes impracticable. Even at the moment of writing a ministerial crisis has occurred, and what will follow, whether a new reconstruction of the Ministry, a dissolution of the Assembly, or a *coup d'état*, is highly problematical. We are so accustomed to surprises in connection with French politics that he would be a bold man who should even attempt to prognosticate the issue of the present crisis. Two things only can be affirmed with safety, that the government of the country is in good hands, and that its material prosperity is greater than it has been since the close of the war.

The power of the German Empire seems greater than ever, yet the Emperor and his advisers have their work cut out for them. What may be the issue of the struggle with the Vatican remains to be seen, but the contest is one which cannot fail to create uneasiness, even in the firm, relentless mind of Prince Bismarck. Then the necessity there is for maintaining large armies must, sooner or later, press heavily on the various parts of the Empire. Hitherto, the French indemnity has relieved the Imperial Parliament of the duty of providing wholly for its maintenance out of the Imperial revenues. But, sooner or later, an increased demand on the national purse must be made, and this will involve increased taxation. How this demand will be received remains to be seen. Germany may acquiesce in the inevi-

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table, and make the necessary sacrifice in order to maintain the integrity of the Empire; or German loyalty to the existing *régime* may diminish in intensity. However, this may be, there are, in the present phase of German politics, at least, the elements of doubt and difficulty as regards the future.

In Spain the new year has opened more joyously, or, at all events, with a better prospect that it will shortly enjoy a more settled government, and, as a consequence of this, that its civil war will be sooner brought to a close. A bloodless revolution has resulted in the eldest son of the ex-Queen Isabella II. being proclaimed King, as Alphonso XII., and all parties, save the Carlists, and, we presume, the extreme Republicans, appear to have accepted him with acclamation. Already the young monarch is *en route* to his capital, where and elsewhere throughout Spain the most active preparations are being made to give him a cordial welcome. So far so good; but the Carlist war will severely tax the energies of his country. Any serious reverse on the part of the new Alphonsist army may lead to the upset of the Alphonsist throne, and then—chaos again. Still it is a hopeful sign for Spain that the proclamation of the young King should have been so generally and so spontaneously well received, by both the army and the nation: the Carlists, of course, being excepted.

The chief difficulties in Italy are of a financial character, and these difficulties arise almost entirely from her being compelled to follow other powers in maintaining a vast military and naval force. Her Government is firmly established; her material resources are being certainly, if slowly, developed, and, but for the reason above, her financial condition would be a prosperous one. As to Russia, Austro-Hungary, and Turkey, there is little, if anything, in the *status quo* to call for special remark. The first named power has taken measures to increase her army, so that in the course of the present year it is calculated she will have a million and a half of men under arms. But so long as the reins of government are in the hands of the present Emperor, Europe, we think, will have little, if any, reason to fear that Russia will pursue other than a pacific policy.

We have thus briefly surveyed the political situation throughout nearly the whole of Europe. As regards ourselves, the task has been one of unmixed pleasure. As regards the rest of the great powers, the prospect is not very consoling. We must be thankful, however, that no present cause for alarm exists. There must always be an element of danger when every Continental power is armed to the teeth. Happily, each has special work cut out for it, and though this work may any day be interrupted by the occurrence of some grave event, it is, at least, a satisfaction to feel that, for the moment, there is some chance that the peace of Europe may not be broken.

The State visit to Paris of the Lord Mayor and his Lady, together with other civic dignitaries, is an event of some importance, demanding from us more than a passing allusion, not simply because his lordship is an honoured member of the Craft—though such reason would certainly have its weight—but because its influence for good is unquestionable. We do not mean that this visit has any political significance. The time has long since past when any interchange of friendship between the sovereigns or notabilities of two countries would be deemed a guarantee of perpetual amity. Indeed, the few occasions that occur to us at the moment—the friendly meeting of Henry and Francis, on the Field of the Cloth of Gold, the friendly relations between Charles II. and Louis XIV., and even the meeting between our present gracious Sovereign and the late King Louis Phillippe—were, each and every of them, followed by war, or a threatened severance of friendly relations between France and England. But France will assuredly regard this event in a kindly spirit, almost, perhaps, as a renewal of that intimate friendship between us and her which existed twenty years since, and for some years after the close of the Crimean War. The present occasion is a slight one—the opening of a new opera house, but the appearance, in the streets of Paris, of the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs in their State carriages, and attended by their State officers, cannot, we repeat, but create the most favourable feeling in the minds of the impressionable French, the rather that it follows so closely upon the presentation to the Queen of several volumes of addresses from all parts of France, thanking her and her subjects for their sympathy and assistance after the late Franco-German war was ended. There is another reason, perhaps. Since the horrible events of 1871 nothing has occurred in Paris in the shape of public rejoicing or festivity, and France will gratefully remember that the nation which sympathised so deeply with her in her misfortunes is also the first to join her in her first return of enjoyment. May the loyal feelings of friendship thus evoked long continue to exist between the two great Western Powers!

Brother T. Adams, P.G.P., and preceptor of several Lodges of instruction, announces his Annual Ball, at Willis's Rooms, for Tuesday the 2nd February. This used to be called a Masonic Ball, and there can be little doubt that a large number of the fraternity will attend on the present occasion. No Masonic emblems or clothing will however be worn, as only the Grand Lodge can grant a dispensation for the brethren to appear in Masonic costume. A goodly list of stewards is announced, including many esteemed members of the Craft.

Four executions on one day is a phase of retributive justice we have rarely to record. On Monday last three men were executed at Liverpool, and one at Newgate. In each case the crime of murder was rendered more atrocious than usual by the violence and brutality by which it was accompanied. Notwithstanding this, efforts were made to obtain a reprieve in more cases than one. We know there are many people who object to capital punishment; others, again, there are, who have a hatred of the "cat." It was only the other day, at a meeting of the Glamorganshire magistrates, that Lord Aberdare, in alluding to the latter subject, expressed himself strongly against its application to garotters and wife-beaters. He held that it had not acted as a deterrent in the former case, and that it would result in a serious disturbance of conjugal relations in the latter. If his lordship can point out any means for repressing the vice of drunkenness, to which undoubtedly most of the dastardly attacks on women are attributable, he will be doing the State some service.

The *Times* furnishes us with an account of lifeboat services for the past year, which, at the present moment, cannot fail to prove highly interesting. We have so frequently to record loss of life at sea, that any institution which has for its object the saving of human life must possess great interest for us, and should claim our best sympathies and support. No less than 543 lives were saved by lifeboats belonging to the Institution during the year 1874. This number is supplemented by 170 saved by fishing boats and others, making a total of 713 persons saved. In addition to these services, 15 vessels have been saved from destruction by its instrumentality. It is equally gratifying to learn that no lives were lost from the lifeboats themselves. Reviewing former statistics of the Institution, we find that since its formation no less than 22,866 lives have been saved, 947 gold and silver medals bestowed, and a sum amounting to £43,600 disbursed in pecuniary rewards.

The survivors of the emigrant ship, "Cospatrick," have made us acquainted with very harrowing details respecting the burning of the vessel, and the sufferings they individually experienced during a ten days' exposure in an open boat. We very much fear that the second boat, which for a short time kept company with that in which Macdonald, Lewis and Cotter escaped, has gone down with all hands, as no tidings have been heard, as yet, of any other survivors, though the "Windsor Castle" and the "Syria" have both arrived at Madeira from the Cape and St. Helena. It is seldom that, when people take to the boats, through some accident to the vessel, they find themselves without either food or water; such, however, was the case in this instance. The fearful alternative of starvation was one scarcely less terrible than the means employed to avoid it. When the pangs of hunger could no longer be endured, the few who survived on the sixth day were compelled to devour the livers of two of their dead companions, and drink their blood. It was a merciful interposition of Providence that this shocking state of things was not required to be repeated. The "British

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Sceptre" rescued them on the tenth day. The survivors bear testimony to the extraordinary kindness they experienced from Captain Jahnke and his crew. More dead than alive, they were left in hospital at St. Helena, from whence they are but recently arrived, apparently little the worse for their sufferings. The cause of the fire we shall probably never know, though it is supposed to have had its origin in the boatswain's locker, where tar and other combustible matters were stowed. But the cause of the terrible loss of life may be accounted for to a very great extent by the fact of two of the boats being burned before they could be lowered, and, secondly, by the inability of the crew to lower all the others. We are glad to find that a subscription is being raised, under the auspices of the Lord Mayor, for the benefit of the relatives of the lost.

Whilst the Midland Railway is effecting a general surprise in the abolition of second-class carriages and the reduction of first-class fares, the Great Northern is distinguishing itself in a manner not likely to prove so satisfactory to the parties dependent on its management. For some weeks past, the gross unpunctuality of many of the trains, especially those which may be termed "business" trains, has called forth loud and wide-spread expressions of dissatisfaction. The evening trains cannot be said to observe better time. It is high time the matter was taken up in earnest. "Punctuality is the soul of business," is a truism which every-day travellers recognise. A meeting to consider this subject, together with the system lately introduced by the company, of granting season-tickets, was held last week at Cannon-street Hotel. We trust the deputation to the directors, which was then determined upon, may lead both to a revision of the new tariff and to some improvement in the suburban train service. Perhaps the latter may be attained to some extent when the new line from Finsbury Park to Broad-street is opened, as the delays which occur are doubtless attributable to the block on the Metropolitan Railway; but, *nous verrons*.

The latest returns of the Registrar-General furnish some startling facts, which the severity of the season will account for in no small degree. It is an abnormal state of affairs that the deaths should exceed the births in any locality. We find, however, that in eleven out of twenty-one towns for which returns have been furnished, this state of affairs exists, and supplies a total of 669. Glasgow is pre-eminently conspicuous in this respect; where the deaths exceed the births by no less than 247 in one week, the actual death rate being 60 per 1,000. Liverpool stands next with 51, Manchester and Salford with 50, while Oldham and Dublin show 45, Nottingham 44, Bradford and Bristol 43, and Edinburgh 42; London exhibits 37. These, with twenty other towns, make the average of the 21 no less than 41 per 1,000. These rates are so much in excess of the usual returns, that we are at a loss to account for them, notwithstanding the recent trying nature of the weather. Looking at the returns for Paris and Brussels, where the actual cold exceeds that in this country, we find, in the former, a rate of 24, and, in the latter, one of 25 per 1,000. In the case of Brussels, the return relates to a week previous to the last, when the death-rate of London was 31 per 1,000.

We learn, from the *Mauritius*, that it is proposed to hold a Masonic reception in honour of the Right Hon. Lord Lindsay, Provincial Grand Master of West Aberdeenshire. A programme has appeared in the *Mauritius Sentinel*, in which brethren are invited to offer such suggestions as seem fit to them as regards the manner, while his Lordship is invited to state his pleasure as to the date for holding the reception.

Elsewhere in our columns will be found an account of the installation of His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, as Grand Master of the Most Ancient and Honourable Society of Free and Accepted Masons of Ireland. Those, however, of our readers, who are desirous of perusing a fuller and more detailed account of the ceremony should consult the columns of the *Irish Times*, which contains a list of the Brethren present, together with particulars of the installation and names of the principal officers of Grand Lodge.

THE IRISH FREEMASONS.

His Grace the Duke of Abercorn was, on Wednesday evening, the 6th January, installed Grand Master of the Freemasons of Ireland, an office held for over 50 years by the late Duke of Leinster. The ceremonial was held in the Masonic Hall, Molesworth-street, and was invested with all the pomp and pageantry which the Order could impart to it. All the Grand Officers and a numerous host of Masters and Past Masters of Lodges, including many representing the Provinces, were present in full Masonic costume, with the decorations of the several ranks, and formed a brilliant assemblage. On the arrival of his Grace from the Viceregal Lodge he was conducted by the Deputy Grand Master (Mr. Shekleton) and the Grand Officers to the Small Lodge-room, where he was formally installed as Master of the Grand Master's Lodge. They then proceeded to the Grand Lodge-room, where the Lodge was opened in due form, and the Grand Master elect was conducted to the dais, while a Masonic march was played on the organ. After prayer by the Grand Chaplain, his Grace knelt, and the obligation of his office having been administered to him, he was invested, by the Deputy Grand Master, with the official insignia, and conducted to the throne, while the Duke of Connaught's Grand March was played on the organ. A selection was also sung from a Masonic ode, especially composed for the occasion. The director of the ceremonies, Mr. St. George, then proclaimed his Grace, amid a flourish of trumpets, declaring with impressive formality all his titles, and, last of all, that of Grand Master of the Ancient and Honourable Order of Free and Accepted Masons of Ireland. The proclamation was followed by the enthusiastic cheers of the Assembly, and Mr. Shekleton, Deputy Grand Master, on the part of the Order, congratulated his Grace on his acceptance of the office. In the course of his address he said:—

"It was a matter of great satisfaction to us that your Grace was enabled to accept the office for which you were selected by the numerous and enthusiastic suffrages of your Irish brethren; selected not from any political motives—for all who hear me know that when we cross the portals of this building we Masons discard considerations of party, and remember only that we are members of a brotherhood, linked together by ties of universal charity and love, knowing no distinction of class or creed,—but selected as an Irish nobleman who has been neither ashamed nor afraid to reside among us, and who, both in private life and while discharging high and responsible functions, has obtained the respect and esteem not merely of those who entertain the same religious and political views as your Grace, but of those who are most diametrically opposed to them. (Loud applause.) To be called upon in such a way as your Grace has been to preside over a society so widely diffused and so influential as the Masonic body is unquestionably an honour of which any one, no matter how exalted in rank, might well be proud. Your Grace has been elected in succession to one whose memory is, and will, I trust, be ever cherished among us—one who for a period exceeding the span of most men's lives ruled over our Order with mild and courteous sway. We cannot, in the course of nature, anticipate so prolonged a tenure of office for your Grace, but we most fervently trust that the bond of union which has this day been cemented between your Grace and the Masons of Ireland may not soon be severed, and we can assure your Grace that though the office of Grand Master is an annually elected one, so long as your Grace is willing to preside over us you need not apprehend any desire for change on the part of your constituents."

His Grace was saluted according to ancient usage, amid the cheering of the whole assembly, with great enthusiasm.

The Grand Master, in returning thanks for the honour conferred upon him, expressed his sense of the responsibility which it involved, especially when he recalled the memory of the late Grand Master, to whose loss he referred in terms of the deepest regret, warmly eulogizing his administration of the office and his distinguished character. His Grace said it would be his earnest desire to follow the example so worthily set by his predecessor, and to use every endeavour in his power to maintain the dignity of the Grand Lodge and to advance the great and important influence which Freemasonry exercised towards mankind. His connection with the Order was of no recent date. It was now forty-three years since he was admitted into the Apollo University Lodge in Oxford, and the course upon which he then entered as a novice culminated in the honour now conferred upon him. His Grace then added:—

"It has not needed that long experience to teach me what you all know, and what has been so well expressed to-night—the great objects of Freemasonry. We know that its objects are not political (hear, hear); that they are not confined to any denomination or any sect (hear, hear); but that, as a widely-spread community, for the extension of human sympathy and human brotherhood, it has been the means of embracing myriads of men of all nations and of all creeds in one common bond of amity. (Hear, hear, and applause.) Brethren, it is not necessary for me in this place to remind you that the name of your illustrious patron, the Prince of Wales ('hear, hear,' and applause) is a sure guarantee that loyalty to the Sovereign is our true and sterling watchword (cheers); and we have the experience of 3,000 years to know that charity to mankind and love to the brethren are, and have been, the leading and guiding principles of our noble Craft, and the great and ultimate aims of our Association. ('Hear, hear,' and applause.) Brethren, I thank you

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again most truly and most gratefully for the honour you have conferred upon me, as well as for the most cordial and flattering reception which you have given me." (Loud and prolonged cheering.)

His Grace reinstated Mr. Shekleton as Deputy Grand Master, and the Marquis of Headfort having been installed Senior Grand Warden, and Lord Dunboyne Junior Grand Warden, the Grand Lodge was closed with the usual forms.—*Times.*

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All Letters and communications must be addressed to the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, 67 *Barbican, London, E.C.*

ASIP.—Your conduct was most reprehensible; you were bound to obey the W. M., and, upon consideration, you will see that you were to blame. By all means write the apology.

SENIOR WARDEN.—We will try to comply with your request in a few weeks. Send us all the particulars, and keep us posted up.

R. R., Plymouth.—Thanks for your very kind wishes. The question of size had our fullest consideration. We shall be glad to hear from you at any time.

SOLOMON.—The Anniversary Dinner of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls will take place on 12th May next. You will find all the information you ask for in the *Cosmopolitan Masonic Calendar* for 1875.

CORRESPONDENCE.

All Letters must bear the name and address of the Writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.

THE TWO ST. JOHNS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR,—Your correspondent will find the information he needs in Mackay's "Lexicon of Freemasonry," under article "Dedication." It occupies two closely printed pages, or I would copy it out. The "Lexicon" is published by Griffin, Stationers' Hall Court.

I am, however, much disposed to think that a third St. John, viz., *St. John of Jerusalem*, otherwise *St. John the Almoner*, is the proper St. John of Masonry. His festival, according to the Eastern Calendar, falls on 11th November. Yours, &c. 31°.

[We willingly give insertion to the above letter, in reply to the series of questions propounded by a correspondent in our last number. There are, however, many conflicting theories thereon, and we shall gladly open our columns to the discussion of the subject. As regards the third St. John, spoken of by our present correspondent, we refer him to "A Mirror for the Johannite Masons," by the Rev. Geo. Oliver, D.D. (R. Spencer, 1848).—ED. FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.]

A FREEMASONS' LIFEBOAT.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR,—I congratulate you upon the success achieved by your first number, which has aroused the enthusiasm of the Masons in this district. We are glad of the prospect of being represented, and I may say enlightened, by a journal of sufficient influence and ability to command the confidence of the Craft. I am certain that you will always advocate the best interests of the Brotherhood, and that any scheme for furthering the benevolent objects which Freemasons have at heart will meet with your warm approval and support. I venture therefore to make a suggestion, which is, I believe, quite new, so far as we are concerned, but which, notwithstanding, will, I am sure, meet with support if you will kindly honour these lines with a corner in your journal. My suggestion is, that the Masonic body in England should subscribe and place a FREEMASONS' LIFEBOAT upon some exposed station on the coast where a lifeboat is needed. The records of the National Lifeboat Association show that there are many such dangerous places at present without boats, and I think it would be a noble thing for the Brotherhood to identify itself with the Association which is devoted to the saving of life at sea. There is a "Mark Lane Lifeboat," which was purchased by the merchants and others of that busy centre of trade. There is, I believe, a "Stock Exchange Lifeboat," and the Civil Service has added one of these useful craft to the fleet of the Lifeboat Association. I ask you, Sir, whether you think the Freemasons, as a body, should longer remain indifferent to the claims of humanity? A small subscription from each member of the Fraternity would suffice to carry out my suggestion fully and completely. Freemasons do not, indeed, care to advocate their principles, but I believe the most orthodox member of the Craft would be glad to see the motto of the Fraternity painted on the gunwale of a vessel devoted to the noble task of saving our suffering seamen.

I trust, Sir, that you will consider this hint of mine, and that you will be good enough to throw open your columns to its discussion. I believe many of the brethren will gladly support my view by the pen, and, when the proper time comes, by the practical aid of the purse. I am, Sir, yours respectfully,

Liverpool, 7th January. A MASTER MASON.

[We gladly give insertion to this letter, and shall be willing to receive suggestions upon the subject.—ED. FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.]

THE MASONIC CHARITIES.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

Dear Sir and Bro.—I hasten to offer you a word of congratulation on the appearance of your first number. The articles are written with spirit, and the subjects admirably chosen. More especially am I pleased with the prominence you have given to the subject of the Masonic Charities. It has often been a matter of regret to me that so little was known, even by Freemasons themselves, of these excellent Institutions. It is surely not creditable to the Fraternity that an institution like the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution should be compelled each year to send round an eleemosynary hat to to make up a deficit in its balance sheet; I observe, with pleasure, that you intend to take the other Masonic Charities in turn, and I shall look anxiously for the appearance of these articles in subsequent issues of your paper. Wishing you every prosperity,

I am, Dear Sir, yours fraternally, KELPH.

P.S.—My form of application for shares and subscription have already been forwarded to you.

Obituary.

It is our painful duty to announce the death of Brother Thomas Ward Blagg, which took place at Norwood, on New Year's Eve. For some time since the deceased gentleman had been failing in health, and he was about to retire from the active duties of his profession when the sad event occurred, which has caused so much profound sorrow in a wide circle of friends. Mr. Blagg had held the office of Town Clerk of St. Albans since 1827, and his reputation for business tact, and knowledge of his difficult profession, was well known to the world. The announcement of his death was made at a meeting of the Finance Committee of the St. Albans Corporation, and the Mayor, who was in the chair, expressed his deep sorrow and that of his brethren. The meeting was at once adjourned, and it is stated that the funeral, which will take place on Wednesday next, will be attended by the Corporation, and that a vote of condolence, addressed to the sorrowing widow, will be passed.

We regret to have to announce the death of Mrs. Carr, wife of brother T. A. Carr (P.M.) 795, and daughter of brother C. Gammon (P.M. and Treasurer) 795, late Under Sheriff of London, and formerly Deputy of the Ward of Vintry, which he had the honour of representing in the Common Council of the City of London. The sad event occurred at West Lodge, Peckham Rye, on new year's eve. The deceased lady was taken suddenly ill, in midst of the festive rejoicings of the season; Brother Dr. Roberts and Dr. Brown, who were summoned to her aid, were unremitting in their attention, but, in spite of all that skill and experience could suggest, she rapidly sank, and expired at half past 12 on the morning of new year's day. Mrs. Carr, who is deeply lamented by her bereaved husband and a wide circle of friends, was only 26 years of age. *Requiescat in pace.*

BREAKFAST.—EPPS'S COCOA.—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills."—*Civil Service Gazette.* Made simply with Boiling Water or Milk. Each packet is labelled—"JAMES EPPS & Co., Homœopathic Chemists, 48, Threadneedle Street, and 170, Piccadilly." Also, makers of Epps's Glycerine Jujubes, for throat irritation.

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DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be greatly obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the kingdom would favour us with a copy of their summonses each time of issue.

SATURDAY, 9th JANUARY.

Quarterly General Court Girls' Schools, Freemasons' Hall, at 12.0.
108. London, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
178. Caveac, Westminster Palace Hotel, Westminster.
1228. Granite, Freemasons' Hall.
1361. United Service, Greyhound Hotel, Richmond.
1426. The Great City, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
1457. Bagshaw, Bald Faced Stag, Buckhurst Hill.
R. A. 1260. Burdett, Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court.

MONDAY, 11th JANUARY.

Quarterly General Court Boys' School, at 12.
5—St. George's and Corner Stone, Freemasons' Hall.
29—St. Albans, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
59—Royal Naval, Freemasons' Hall.
90—St. John's, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
193—Confidence, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
1366—Highgate, Gatehouse Hotel, Highgate.
R. A. 23—Mount Sion, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.
Mark 173—Temple, Green Tavern, Tavern, Stepney.
Red Cross Con. 2—Plantagenet, Caledonian Hotel, Robert-street, Adelphi.

TUESDAY, 12th JANUARY.

46—Old Union, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
166—Union, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
180—St. James's Union, Freemasons' Hall.
196—Percy, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
211—St. Michaels, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
228—United Strength, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell.
235—Nine Muses, Queen's Hotel, Cork-street, Bond-street.
548—Wellington, White Swan Tavern, Deptford.
917—Cosmopolitan, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
933—Doric, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
1397—Anerly, Thicket Hotel, Anerly.

WEDNESDAY, 13th JANUARY.

Com. Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, at 3 p.m.
11—Enoch, Freemasons' Hall.
13—Union, Waterloo, Masons' Hall, William-street, Woolwich.
16—Kent, Freemasons' Hall.
87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth.
147—Justice, White Swan, High-street, Deptford.
238—Pilgrim, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
749—Belgrave, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, Limehouse.
1017—Montefiore, Freemasons' Hall.
1306—St. John of Wapping, Gun Hotel, High-street, Wapping.
R. A. 1260—Hervey, Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 1305.—St. Marylebone, British Stores, New-street, St. John's Wood.
K. T. Precep. 129—Holy Palestine, Regent Masonic Hall, Regent-street, W.

THURSDAY, 14th JANUARY.

19—R. Athelstan, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
91—Regularity, Freemasons' Hall.
206—Friendship, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
263—Bank of England, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
534—Polish National, Freemasons' Hall.
657—Canonbury, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
860—Dalhousie, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-Street.
1076—Capper, Marine Hotel, Victoria Docks, West Ham.
1288—Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tavern, Seven Sisters-road, Holloway.
1321—Emblematic, Tulse Hill Hotel, Tulse Hill.
1455—Hyde Park, Westbourne Hotel, 1 Craven-road, W.
R. A. 73—Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hotel, London-bridge.
R. A. 140—St. George's, Globe Tavern, Royal Hill, Greenwich.

FRIDAY, 15th JANUARY.

6—Friendship—Willis's Rooms, King-street, St. James's.
201—Jordan, Freemasons' Hall.
975—Stone of Denmark, White Hart Hotel, Barnes.
Mark 176—Era, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark.
K. T. Precep. 69—Kemey's Tynte, 33 Gobion-square, W.

SATURDAY, 16th JANUARY.

715—Panmure, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
1329—Sphinx, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark.
1364—Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Hackney.
1395—Gladsmuir, Barnet, Lodge of Emergency.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY.—145.—St. Stephen, St. James's Hall, Writer's Court.
TUESDAY.—1.—Mary's Chapel, Waterloo Hotel, Waterloo Place.
WEDNESDAY.—2.—Canongate Kilwinning, St. John's Chapel, St. John's-Street.
R.A.—1.—Edinburgh Freemasons' Hall.
THURSDAY.—8.—Journeymen, Blackfriars Street, High Street.
FRIDAY, R.A.—80.—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Lodge of Joppa, No. 188.—The installation meeting of this flourishing Lodge was held on Monday, 4th inst., at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate Street, Bro. O. Roberts (W.M.) in the chair, assisted by Bros. Hickman S.W., S. Dodson J.W., Anerhaan Treasurer, E. P. Albert (P.M.) Secretary. Past Masters Bros. Berkowitz, Hunt, B. W. Aaron, L. Alexander, I. Abrahams, H. M. Levy and Joel Phillips. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Mr. J. Parker was balloted for and accepted. Bros. S. Botibol, Clark and I. Botibol were passed to the second degree. Mr. Skinner was initiated by Bro. Hunt P.M., and Bro. Isaacs was raised to the third degree by the W.M. A Board of installed masters was then formed, and Bro. S. Hickman S.W. (W.M. elect) was presented to the Lodge; he was duly installed into the chair, in the presence of twenty-four W.M.'s and P.M.'s, by Bro. O. Roberts. The retiring W.M.'s rendering of the ceremony was worthy of imitation, and at the conclusion he was warmly congratulated by the brethren of the Lodge, and also by the numerous visitors present. The W.M. having been saluted, invested his officers as follows, viz., Bros. Dodson S.W., L. Lazarus J.W., L. Anerhaan Treasurer, E. P. Albert (P.M.) Secretary, — Miller S.D., — Cook J.D., Berkowitz (P.M.) Chaplain, A. Anerhaan I.G., H. Hymans D.C., — Borgen and Campion Stewards, P. E. Van Noorden Organist, and — Woodstock Tyler. The Lodge was then called off, and the brethren, above 100 in number, sat down to a very *recherché* banquet and dessert, provided by the Albion Company, and superintended by Bro. W. G. Jennings (the manager). The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given. The W.M., in proposing the health of the Earl of Carnarvon, Provincial Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, said, although the Prince of Wales had been elected Grand Master his engagements had been so numerous that he could not perform those duties as Grand Master himself; and it became necessary for him to appoint a Provincial Grand Master. The brother he appointed to fill that office was the Earl of Carnarvon (loud cheers), who had rendered immense service, not only to the Craft, but to the country. (Cheers.) Bro. Jabez Hogg, whom he was proud to see present, as, well as other Grand Officers, had done good service in Grand Lodge, he had also benefitted the charities, not only by his serving as steward, but also by being a large subscriber himself. (Cheers.) Bro. J. Hogg, in responding, said, if there was one duty more pleasing than another in Freemasonry, it was to return thanks for this toast; it was a privilege of Grand Officers to be rather ornamental than useful, and to enjoy the *otium cum dignitate* on these occasions. He had been spoken of in glowing terms by the W.M., and he had to thank him for the manner in which he had spoken of the Grand Officers' assistance at the installation of W.M.'s, but the Joppa Lodge showed it did not want such assistance; it was impossible there could be better working, and if the brethren would emulate it, Masonry in England must flourish, for he had experienced one of the greatest treats of his life to see such good working as he had that evening. The W.M., in proposing the toast of the Benevolent Fund, said the amount in the hands of the Treasurer was £1,158 3s 11d, and that fund was for the relief of brethren only connected with the Joppa Lodge; and brethren had been relieved to the extent of £100. The W.M. informed the brethren that the officers had on this occasion given to that fund above £15, in addition to the extra amount subscribed (£3 3s) by the Worthy Treasurer, Bro. L. Anerhaan, and his son (£2 2s) Bro. A. Anerhaan, the newly appointed I.G. Bro. W. Aaron (P.M.), President, returned thanks. The toasts of the newly initiated followed. Bro. Roberts then rose, and proposed the toast of the W.M., who, he said, was the right man in the right place, and the Lodge was pleased to see him in the chair. (Cheers.) The W.M., in responding, shewed his aptitude for the position he had been placed in, and thanked the brethren for their kind expressions. He would endeavour, during his occupation of the chair, to follow in the footsteps of his predecessors, more particularly the Past Master. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the I.P.M., Bro. Obed Roberts (at the mention of whose name the greatest amount of enthusiasm was shown); he said, that worthy brother was one who had shed lustre on the Lodge, for he had never been excelled in his strict adherence to his duties, for the brethren had seen how ably he had performed them. The ceremony of installation had been perfectly rendered, and he then, in the name of the Lodge, presented him with a very elegant gold Past Master's jewel, set with diamonds, and a splendid locket, with square and compass, and suitable inscription, set with diamonds, of artistic design; he hoped he might be spared to enjoy it for many years, and that it might be a heirloom to his family. Bro. Roberts, in feeling terms, responded for the valuable gift. Bro. J. Constable W.M. 185, returned thanks for the visitors. He, as well as every brother who responded, paid a just compliment to the able working of the I.P.M. and the W.M. The toast of the Past Masters, Wardens and Officers were given, and duly responded to. The Lodge was then called off, and the brethren, after discussing various matters, separated. A very agreeable and harmonious evening was passed. The W.M. provided a capital concert, under the direction of Bro. P. E. Van Noorden, the Organist, and Miss Matilda Scott, Miss Woolaston, Mr. Alfred Mori, and Mr. Prenton. The visitors were Bros. Jabez Hogg P.G.D., Seymour 736, J. H. Smith P.G.C. 270, J. Constable W.M. 185, Myers P.G.C. 409, Edwards 56, Farber 27, Gotthoil P.M. 141, M. Davis P.M. 74, and W.M. 1474, Leins P.M. 1364, Wilks 1305, C. Davis 220, S. Adams 25, H. Gloster 1306, Abrahams 185, T. Bull W.M. 145, Frankenberg 73, Lowenstark P.M. 1017, Melhuish 55, Albert P.M. 9, J. Emanuel W.M. 205, L. Lazarus 25, H. Lyons 205, A. Myers 65, Cohen 205, Marks 185, Van Minden 205, Ring 1017, Hess 205, Gruinbaum W.M. 1017, S. Lazarus, late P.M. 188, and A. Prime 1139.

Lion and Lamb Lodge, No. 192.—The installation meeting was held on Thursday, 7th January, at the City Terminus Hotel,

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above 100 brethren being present. Mr. George Newman (a P.M. of the William Preston Lodge) was installed by Mr. Henry Muggeridge, and the father of the Lion and Lamb Lodge, in the chair of this Lodge, in succession to Mr. George Abbott, who was presented with a P.M. jewel on vacating the chair. There were several eminent Freemasons present, among whom were the G.S. (Mr. John Hervey), Colonel Burdett (P.G.M. of Middlesex), Colonel Peters, the Rev. E. E. Brette, D.D., (P.G.C., Middlesex), Mr. R. W. Little (G.S. of the same province and Secretary of the Masonic Girls' School), Mr. W. Worrell (Secretary of the Royal Albert Orphan Asylum), Mr. H. Garrod, Mr. George Kenning (a P.M. of the Lodge) and Mr. Roberts (a P.M. of the Lion and Lamb Lodge). In responding to the toast of "Lord Skelmersdale D.G.M., and the Grand Officers," Mr. Hervey reviewed the progress of Freemasonry during the past year, on which he looked with great satisfaction. The events which had occurred in the Order, he said, were of great importance, and would have some influence on Freemasonry in the future. The Prince of Wales, the present Grand Master, was installed in the early part of the year as Master of the Prince of Wales's Lodge, and on the same night, when he (the Grand Secretary) was present, proposed his brother, the Duke of Connaught, as an initiate in the Craft, thereby showing most conclusively that he did not consider Freemasonry inimical to the government of the country, or that there was anything in it subversive of the authority of her Majesty. In March, the Duke of Connaught was initiated, which was an event of great gratification to Freemasons. In the following April, Prince Leopold was proposed by the Prince of Wales, in the Apollo University Lodge, at Oxford, and was initiated at the end of the month. Those were three significant events. But there was yet another, the installation of the present Earl of Zetland, in succession to the late earl, as Provincial Grand Master of the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire. There was another event, which he was very sorry to allude to the secession of the Marquis of Ripon from the Grand Mastership. He could speak most strongly in his lordship's favour, because the way in which he conducted the duties of his office showed that there could not possibly be a better Grand Master. At all times he was ready to perform his duties, he was most attentive to business, and ready to do anything that would further the prosperity of the Order. At all times he endeavoured to uphold in every shape and way the ancient and honourable fraternity, and as late as March last he took the chair at, and pleaded most powerfully the cause of, the Freemasons' Boys' School. After the excitement caused by his lordship's withdrawal had passed away the Craft in their calmer moments would feel that they had sustained a great loss by the Marquis of Ripon's resignation, and that they had a great deal to thank him for during the 20 years that he was an active member of Grand Lodge. It had, however, been said that "there was as good fish in the sea as had come out of it," and although the Marquis of Ripon had resigned Freemasonry, the Heir Apparent to the Throne of England had consented to occupy his post. These events were significant of the high position the Craft held in the opinion of the Royal family, and of the standing it was destined to take in all civilised communities on the face of the globe.

New Concord Lodge, No. 813.—The members of the above Lodge met at the Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton, Bro. T. Bartlett W.M. (this being his occupation of the chair for the second time), supported by the officers of the Lodge, with the valuable assistance of Bro. W. H. Main (P.M.) Secretary, and a numerous assemblage of the brethren. The Lodge being opened, Bro. A. W. Medwin was raised to the third degree. Bros. Boyden, Swales, W. Gabb and Shipway were passed to the second degree. The ceremonies were carefully and impressively delivered in Bro. Bartlett's usual manner. Messrs. Baylis and Foye were duly initiated into the Order; and Bros. A. Hill and Marshall were re-elected joining members. After other business matters had been discussed, the Lodge was closed. The banquet, which was provided by the worthy host, Bro. H. G. Gabb, gave great satisfaction. The usual toasts were given and the brethren enjoyed a very agreeable evening.

Pomfret Lodge, 360, Northampton.—The brethren of this Lodge celebrated the Festival of St. John, in their Lodge Room, George Hotel, on the 28th ult. Bro. Val. Thomas Barford was duly installed W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony being very ably performed by Bro. Hinton (of London, son of an old P. M. of the Pomfret Lodge), in the absence of the I.P.M. (Bro. E. Cox, P.M. of the Canonbury Lodge, London), who was, unfortunately, unable to be present. Bro. J. T. Green P.M., was appointed S.W., Bro. Winter J.W., Bro. George Robinson P.M. Secretary, Bro. B. Wilkins (P.M.), D.P.G.M. Treasurer, Bro. Lalor S.D., Bro. Gadsby J.D. Bro. J. U. Stanton P.M., Senior Steward, Bro. T. R. Wood J.S., and Bros. Dead and Troup O.G. Amongst the visitors at the banquet were Bros. Hinton, Neall, Matthews (London), Bro. Buckle (P.G. Secretary Northampton and Hunts), Bro. Griffin (W.M. elect of St. Peter's Lodge, Peterborough), and although the attendance was not so good as usual, owing to the inclemency of the weather, the evening was passed in a very pleasant manner, harmony being contributed by Bros. Buckle, Hinton, Stanton, Winter, Wood, &c. In the course of the evening Bro. Buckle alluded, in a brotherly manner, to the loss the province of Northampton and Hunts had sustained, in the death of the late D.P.G.M. (Bro. S. Inns), and expressed the satisfaction he felt that so worthy a successor had been found in the person of Bro. Butler Wilkins, a member of the Pomfret Lodge. Bro. W. B. Gates P.M., P.P.G., Treasurer, accepted the office of Steward of one of the Masonic Charities.

St. Peter's Chapter, No. 1125, Tiverton.—A regular quarterly convocation was held at the Masonic Hall, on the 6th instant; the principal chairs being occupied by E. Comp. James Mills P.P.G.D.C. Z.; E. Comp. W. H. Reed P.Z. as H, and E. Comp. Henry Davey J.; Visiting Companion, E. Comp. J. Killingly P.Z. E. Comp. Mills was re-elected Z. for the ensuing year, and E. Comp. Davey having been elected H., and Comp. T. B. Patterson J. they were duly installed in their respective chairs. The following officers were also appointed and invested:—W. B. Williams S.E.; W. H. Reed J.S.N.; Thomas Parkhouse T.S. and Treasurer; Henry Melhuish S.A.S.; J. B. Crabb J.A.S.; William Bartlett and Joseph Searle Stewards; Edward Coleby M.C.; A. Andrews Org. and John Patey Janitor. A handsome gold P.Z. jewel was presented to E. Comp. Mills, in recognition of his services connected with the establishment of this Chapter. Two brethren having been proposed for exaltation, the Chapter was closed.

Golden Rule Lodge, No. 1261.—An emergency meeting of this Lodge was held, at the Regent Masonic Hall, Air Street, Regent Street, on Tuesday, 5th inst., there were the following brethren present. Bro. J. Harriss P.M., W.M., Bro. W. W. Smith S.W., Bro. A. Torkington Secretary, Bro. P. Godfrey J.D., Longley I.G., Bros. F. Deane, J. Levy, T. James, T. Millington and Fabian P.M. The Lodge was opened in first degree. Mr. Alfred Curtis, who had been ballotted for and approved at the previous meeting, was initiated into mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry as an entered apprentice. Bros. F. Deane and J. Levy having proved their proficiency in the first degree, by answering the usual questions, were entrusted and retired. The Lodge was opened in first degree, and Bros. Levy and Deane were passed to the degree of F. C. The Lodge was resumed in first degree, and this being the whole of the business for which the brethren were called together, the Lodge was closed, and adjourned till the first Tuesday in February.

Asaph Lodge, No. 1319.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, the 4th inst., at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. Bros. E. Frewin W.M., J. Jekyll S.W., E. Terry J.W., H. Tinney I.G., E. Swanborough D.C., and Past Masters. Bros. J. Weaver, Chamberlin and E. Stanton Jones. The Lodge was opened and the minutes were confirmed. Two gentlemen were initiated, one of whom was Mr. Stephenson, of the Strand Theatre, and one brother was passed. Great praise was given to the W.M. for his admirable working. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren separated.

THE DRAMA.

The Merry Wives of Windsor—The Pantomimes.

AGREEABLY to our promise of last week, we return to the consideration of Mr. Hollingshead's revival of *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. This comedy, though full of a broad, racy humour, essentially Shakspearian, and containing many admirable sketches of character, can hardly be considered as one of the most dramatically effective of the great poet's productions. The plot is too slender to bear the weight of five long acts, and, although it may be heresy to say so, the humour in places appears forced and artificial. There is a tradition that this play was written at the request of Queen Elizabeth, in order to show Sir John Falstaff in the character of a lover; and internal evidence would seem to favour this supposition. As Dr. Johnson aptly remarks, "No task is harder than that of writing to the ideas of another." The poet approached as near as he could to the task enjoined him; yet, having perhaps, in the former plays, completed his own ideas he seems not to have been able to give Falstaff all his former power of entertainment." Only, however, with other of Shakspeare's plays can it be at all unfavourably compared. Considered by itself, it is a marvel of wit, humour and imagination. In every scene may be found flashes of humour and sketches of character which it would be difficult, if not impossible, to match in the works of any other author. The characters of Dr. Caius and Sir Hugh Evans, of Slender and Ford, of the two wives and Anne Page, and even the serving men, Simple and Rugby, stand out in bold relief, and fix the imagination by the vigour and completeness with which they are drawn. As for Sir John, he is older, fatter and perhaps a trifle duller than when he fought "a long hour by Shrewsbury clock," but his wit is still keen, and his thirst for sack yet unquenched. The play was evidently an afterthought, for the fat knight was comfortably disposed of in Henry V., but no one can possibly regret his resuscitation who has read or seen *The Merry Wives of Windsor*.

The GAIETY cast for this play is unquestionably a strong one. Since the death of Mr. Barrett and Mr. Mark Lemon, Mr. Phelps has been the only Falstaff on the English stage. His impersonation is carefully, almost too carefully elaborated, and great point is given to all the speeches; but there is a want of unction in his rendering of the part. The humour is altogether too dry for a man of Falstaff's "kidney." We think, too, though here the matter is more open to dispute, that Mr. Phelps's Falstaff is a little too old. In reading the play we think of Sir John as an old man, certainly, but hale and hearty notwithstanding. These are points upon which critics will probably be divided, but none, we think, will refuse to admit the great merit of Mr. Phelps's performance, both as regards the breadth and general accuracy of the conception, and the minuteness and finish bestowed upon the execution.

Mr. Phelps is, of course, the central figure in the revival, but some other of the performers deserve a word of commendation. Mr. Herman Vezin as Mr. Ford exhibits characteristic power and earnestness, and his impersonation generally is essentially and artistically dramatic. Mr. Righton, albeit a little shaky in his Welsh accent, gives a very humourous rendering of the part of Hugh

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Evans. "A hit, a palpable hit," is made by Mr. Arthur Cecil, in the character of the little French Doctor Caius. Mr. Cecil's *forte* lies evidently in the region of eccentric comedy, for this is nothing less than a masterpiece. The "merry wives," Mrs. Ford and Mrs. Page, are acted with sufficient vivacity by Miss Rose Leclercq and Mrs. John Wood, whilst Miss Furtado makes an attractive and modest Anne Page. The chief blot in the representation is found in the performance and general make-up of Messrs. Pistol, Nym and Bardolph, Falstaff's not too obedient or reputable followers. It would seem that the old type of utility actor is fast dying out. No actor who can speak a few lines with decent elocutionary skill is content to appear in any other than one of the leading parts of a play; and the consequence is that parts like these, affording excellent scope for acting, are frequently handed over to indifferent artists. In our opinion, the make-up of the representative of Bardolph would have caused all Windsor to follow at his heels had he ventured to appear so disfigured in the streets. As regards the scenery and stage appointments, every praise is due to Mr. Hollingshead for the taste and care bestowed upon them; in no case can they be said to "overstep the modesty of nature." We are also pleased to note that *The Merry Wives of Windsor* is to be followed by *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

The pantomimes this year are, as usual, resplendent in variety of colour, scenic effect, and magnificent costumes. As for the humour, the old rollicking spirit of pantomime seems to grow duller as time rolls on, and what with elaborate openings, an endless succession of ballets, and the gorgeous developments of the transformation scene, the harlequinade is driven farther and farther into the region of midnight until it seems almost probable that our immediate posterity will see it abolished altogether. COVENT GARDEN in particular has always held the reputation of producing the grandest, costliest, and dullest pantomime of the London season. Perhaps, however, we ought not to look for fun in an entertainment where, as in this instance, so much is always done in the way of spectacular magnificence. The real beauty of some of the scenes in this year's pantomime, such as the frozen dyke of Dunmow, the surprising spectral effects produced in the scene of the Great Bed of Ware, and the surpassing magnificence of the transformation scene, will probably cause people to overlook the fact that the performance affords little ground for merriment.

At DRURY, the Vokes family furnish the fun, and there is an abundance of it; but even here the humour of pantomime is, to a certain extent, overshadowed by the triumphs of scene-painter and machinist. The scene of the Garden of Jewels is a marvel of spectacular ingenuity, and is of itself sufficient to justify a visit to the theatre. Mr. Fred. Vokes sustains with characteristic ability, and we may add agility, the rôle of Abanazar the Magician. Mr. Fawdon Vokes appears as Kariac, whilst Miss Victoria Vokes makes a most delightful Aladdin, and her sister a fascinating Princess Badroulbadour.

The story of *Sinbad the Sailor* supplies the groundwork of the pantomime at the HOLBORN, and a great deal is made of this time-honoured subject. The scenery is very effective; and one scene, the Home of the Black Ants, is as good as anything presented this year. Miss Maggie Brennan makes a most sprightly and vivacious Sinbad, and she is well seconded in her endeavours by Messrs. Vincent, Moxon and Furtado. The AMPHITHEATRE, too, under the management of Mr. Hollingshead, bids fair to maintain a prolonged prosperity with its present programme. At the SURREY, Messrs. W. H., Harry and Fred. Payne prove, to delighted audiences, that the salt and savour of Pantomime are not yet banished from the London stage; whilst ASTLEY'S, with its gorgeous Circus pantomime of *Aladdin*, fully maintains its old reputation.

Glancing to the provinces, we observe that Bro. Steele, at the Victory Theatre, Aldershot, has achieved a genuine success in a pantomime founded on the well-worn topic of *Jack and the Bean Stalk*. Miss Millie Steele plays the part of Jack, and carries all before her by the sprightliness and grace of her performance. The transformation scene, which is supposed to represent the Dream of Endymion, is a magnificent affair, and the concluding harlequinade has an abundance of hearty fun wherewith to enliven the holiday-seeking public.

The Music Halls, like the theatres, have their Christmas season, and at most of them an entertainment, of a more or less seasonable character. Mr. Morris, the "Proteus," late of the Charing Cross Theatre, appears in his extraordinary performance at the London Pavilion and the Royal Cambridge, whilst the Royal, under the management of Bros. Sweasy and Adams, presents a most varied programme, including the "dancing Quakers," Riley and Barnum, and the great ventriloquist, Lieutenant Cole. A little excitement was created here on Tuesday last, by the announcement being made, by Bro. P. Corri, that Mr. Lamont, the boatswain of the ill-fated "La Plata," was in the hall, the news being received with great applause. It may also be noted that the benefit of Bro. Adams is announced for the 25th instant.

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Printed and Published for the Freemason's Chronicle Publishing Company Limited, by Brother WILLIAM WRAY MORGAN, at 67 Barbican, E.C. Saturday, 9th January 1875.

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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. I.—No. 3. SATURDAY, 16th JANUARY 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE.
Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

A ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION FOR SCOTLAND.

IN our opening number we referred, at length, to the benefits conferred by the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and likewise to its progress, present position, and future prospects. We also expressed our intention of treating, in a somewhat similar manner, the other Masonic Institutions—the maintenance of which is due to the energy and goodwill of the general body of Masons—to wit, the Royal Masonic Institutions for Boys and Girls respectively. It is, then, with a feeling of genuine pleasure that we announce to our readers that a plan is under consideration among our Scottish Brethren for the establishment of a Royal Scottish Masonic Benevolent Institution. We have received a prospectus, in which are briefly set forth the objects it is sought to attain thereby; and a proposed code of rules and regulations for the governance of the Institution when established, together with a very stirring appeal from Bro. Geo. R. Harriott, Prov. G.M. Wigtown and Kirkcudbright, the originator and promoter of the scheme. We doubt not the appeal will meet with that attention which the excellent character of the proposal merits. Equally confident are we that Scottish Masons will not be behind their brethren in other parts of the United Kingdom in promoting and fostering an Institution whose objects are the relief of aged and distressed Masons and their widows, and the education of the sons and daughters of poor, yet deserving brothers.

It is to be regretted, and may, perhaps, be matter for no little wonderment with many people, that Scotch Masonry should possess no public fund, asylum, or institution for the general purposes of benevolence. Scotchmen are intensely national, not from mere sentiment only, but from pure love of country. Even in the most remote lands—and Scotsmen are to be found all over the world—they never forget their native hills and glens, but retain always the liveliest recollection of their exceeding beauty. The clanship of olden time still exists, but on a wider basis; where were many clans, with much and mutual rivalry, there is now, so to speak, but one clan,—the whole nation. Hence, we repeat, the surprise which many will experience, that Scotch Masonry should be without some such institution as the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, though we are convinced that Scotch Lodges and individual members of the Brotherhood have not been found wanting in the grandest of all Masonic duties—Charity.

The object of the present proposal is a large—we may almost say, a too ambitious—one, being none other than the establishment of an institution which shall unite in itself the aims of our three Masonic Charities. To this no sound objection can be raised, so far as its mere government is concerned, but the promoters of the scheme must first get their institution before they lay down plans for its supervision and direction. And the question will naturally occur to every one,—May there not be shipwreck of the whole scheme if its aim be too extensive? True, the promoters have, in a measure, anticipated this objection, by limiting the proposal, at first starting, to renting a "house at one of the Universities, as a College Hall on a small scale, say for 10 or 15 students." After allowing amply for the cost of this experiment, it is calculated there would still be a balance left for general management and for annuities to a limited number of widows and aged brethren. Yet we submit, with all deference, that it would be far better and far likelier to succeed if the project were, in the first instance, limited to one purpose only, leaving the other objects to be gradually engrafted on the earlier one, as the ability of the Institution to extend its field of operations became more assured. Again, we would suggest that the relief of aged and distressed Masons and their widows is a matter of graver importance than the training of youth, especially in Scotland, where the system of education is superior to our own, and the rudiments of knowledge are within easy reach of all classes of the community. But, after all, these are merely suggestions, thrown out, not in a spirit of carping criticism, but with the earnest desire to aid the promoters in the attainment of their object.

Nothing need be said as to the geneal character of the proposal, which will necessarily command the attention of Scottish Masons. Nor do we anticipate any backwardness on the part of the latter in supporting the project. Once let it be shown that the establishment of such an institution is feasible, and its maintenance in a flourishing condition, is, humanly speaking, assured, while we are confident Scotch Masons will do their duty. Nor is it needful to say much on the present occasion respecting the rules and regulations of the proposed Institution. They are conceived in a just spirit, with a due regard for its proper governance. But these rules are liable to amendment when the scheme has reached maturity. We may remark, however, that, as far as we have been able to institute any comparison, the proposed rules embody all the chief points laid down in the laws and regulations of our Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and our Royal Masonic Institutions for Boys and Girls respectively. They have evidently been prepared with the utmost care by one or more persons, who, if not possessing experience in the management of such institutions, show themselves herein to be thoroughly competent for such a task. So carefully, indeed, have these laws and regulations been drawn, so excellent is the spirit in which they have been conceived, that we question much if any material alteration would be required.

It only remains for us to add, that we wish every success to the scheme, and that as far as any efforts of our own may be of service to the promoters, we shall most willingly render them such aid as it may be in our power to afford. On all occasions our columns will be open to them for the furtherance of this most admirable project.

CITIZENSHIP OF THE WORLD.

"AS wide as the earth; as deep as the human heart." This is the ideal that some young and enthusiastic minds form of a cosmopolitanism which shall embrace the great human family. Many a man has aspired to be an apostle of cosmopolitanism. The great traveller, or the lounger, who has sauntered through every capital of Europe, may imagine that because he has seen many countries, or men of many nations, that he is therefore qualified to teach us the true principles of international toleration, or rather citizenship. Culture and refinement may, indeed, gain by the labours of such men as these; but it often happens that the traveller is a man of narrow ideas, who has gone through the world incapable of justly estimating the facts presented to his mind, while the lounger, who hangs about the saloons of fashion, often knows nothing of men outside his own sphere. Citizenship of the world was indeed a dream of the young England party a generation ago, and it is rather odd that the gallant

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young gentlemen, who showed so conclusively that they had "the courage of their opinions," did not seem to be aware that the principles upon which true cosmopolitanism should be based had long before been expounded by two great corporations, which are destined to influence man while the earth endures. The first of these is the Christian Church; the second is the great fraternity of Freemasons. It is not our business to speak in these columns of religious questions, but no one can deny that the transcendent intellect of Jesus had sketched the principles upon which universal brotherhood should be based more clearly and accurately than any of the great prophets or philosophers who preceded him. Confucius, the Chinese thinker, did, indeed, make some approach to the golden rule. Socrates, four hundred years before our era, was clearly on the track which Jesus afterwards pursued, yet he but faintly grasped the noble idea of a brotherhood which should be co-extensive with the human race. There can be no question that Masonry owes its noblest principles to the founder of Christianity. Its Charity, its Brotherly Love, its comprehensive grasp of humanity as a whole, were no doubt derived from the Prophet of Nazareth. Learned writers have, indeed, proved that the *Talmud* contains an immense body of moral precept, only second in importance to that contained in the Gospels; but these precepts were, so to speak, the private property of a nation, the people of which had no idea of inviting the whole world to become partakers with them of the measure of truth they enjoyed. Masonry, which dates its foundation far beyond the Christian era, is yet deeply indebted to that marvellous period when Christian art, as Pugin justly called it, flourished, for the breadth and Charity which are its distinctive traits in the present age. The architects of the great Gothic cathedrals not only spread Masonry over Europe, but they enlarged its moral boundary line. The eternal truths on which the scientific portion of Masonry is based are no doubt derived from a study of the works of the Great Architect of the Universe; but the grand principles which we are proud to regard as the guiding stars of the Order, the principles of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, come from a source nearer to humanity than the manifestations of Divine Power. A Mason is essentially a citizen of the world. Toleration, in its broadest and widest sense, is taught him in the sacred arcanum of the Lodge. Creed, colour and nationality are nothing to him; but wherever he may roam he recognises the members of the Craft as peculiarly his brethren. In the presence of such cosmopolitanism as this the boastings of individuals outside the Masonic circle are vain and to trivial. A man of the world may indeed educate himself regard the people he meets as in some sense related to him by great moral and social ties, but he must be a gentleman, as well as a man of large and liberal ideas, before he can consent to forget the prejudices of his age and country. It is the Mason who is bound to his fellows of the Craft by that mystic tie which has often been recognised and respected in the heat of the battle, in the midst of plague, pestilence and famine, and at times when political tyranny has made the confession of the principles of the Order dangerous to the social status, and even the life of the daring brother. Such citizenship is glorious, and we, in common with the great mass of our brethren, are proud of its responsibilities and its claims.

HOMES AND EDUCATION.

IF social, sanitary, and educational reformers mean to accomplish any great improvement in the habits of the people, they must begin to study the character of home comforts and home duties. It is here where the first germs of virtue or vice are planted, and the formation of character commenced. The gentle mother. with that touch of affection which none but mothers can give, will awaken in the babyhood of her children some thoughts of love, home, and duty that live on for ever. Some kind words, some persuasive injunctions, that will suggest duty rather than command obedience, will aid the development of the mental and moral susceptibility of the child, which is to become the father of the man, much better than fear and coercion. Home, without purity and constancy, is spoiled of its holiest charm and most blessed influences, yet how many of the homes of the artizans, mechanics, and more especially of the agricultural labourers, are denuded of the means of that family isolation and domestic reverence for decency which should be incumbent upon every parent to secure. The owners of property should be made to understand that they have duties to perform, as well as rights to maintain; that the accumulation of private wealth cannot, for one moment, be allowed to be a standing obstacle to the general social welfare of the comunity. The injury to the character of those who, by circumstances, are compelled to live in mere dens of desolation and depravity, cannot be over estimated; such homes are mere hotbeds of temptation, vice and foul disease, and children who are brought into the world under such vicious influences may, really and truly, be said to have been born in sin, and shapened in iniquity. What is needed to subdue these evils are more peace makers; when we look around, do we not find that religion is war? that Christians, forsaking their one Lord, gather under various standards, to gain victory for their sects? Politics are war, breaking the whole people into fierce and unscruplous parties, which forget their country in conflicts for office and power. The age requires men of serene judgment and commanding virtue to preach, in life and word, the inestimable value of human brotherhood, by which alone the fires of jealousy and hate can be allayed. Great ideas and genial feelings are even now being derived from this source and are at work. Amidst the prevalence of crime and selfishness, there has sprung up in the human heart a sentiment or principle unknown in earlier ages, an enlarged and trustful philanthropy, which recognises the rights of every human being which is stirred by the terrible oppressions and corruptions of the world, and which does not shrink from conflict with evil in its worst forms. There has sprung up, too, a faith of which antiquity knew nothing, in the final victory of truth and right, in the elevation of men to a clearer intelligence, to more fraternal union, and to a purer worship. This faith is taking its place among the great springs of human action, is becoming even a passion in more ardent spirits; this spirit ought to be hailed with delight, as the enlightened harbinger of brighter and better times to come. Ages rolled away before it was learned that this world of matter which we tread on is in constant motion, all now are beginning to learn that the intellectual and moral world has its motion too, not fixed and immutable, like that of matter, but one which the free will of men is to carry on and to stretch forth for ever. This is the social star that shines in the mental firmament, and sheds its cheering rays all around. But to ensure the continuance of this moral and mental progress we must invoke the aid of a sound, expansive and rational education, one that will include that whole course of moral and mental discipline, by which youth can be prepared to discharge the functions and fulfil the duties required from age. Scholastic teaching is but a part of education. The Church, the State and the family are educational agencies. Each in its way as important and as influential as the school; and in every effective plan for national education these separate agencies must be combined in harmonious co-operation, lest what is accomplished by one agency should be counteracted or subverted by another. Unfortunately, this important question has been so involved in controversy that its aspect has been distorted and obscured by the passions of angry or interested partizans, to such an extent as to disguise its very nature. Men argue as if the question at issue was between education and non-education; but a more greivous error could hardly be committed. There is no such thing as non-education. Every human being is educated; that is to say, every human being derives principles of conduct and habits of action from the authority, the conversation and example of those by whom he is surrounded. The thief is educated, the poacher is educated, and the pick-pocket most sedulously educated. There is no school in the world where more heed is given to the progress of the pupils than that in which a Fagin acts as master, and an Artful Dodger as head assistant. Vice opens schools as well as virtue. Crime has rewards for the zealous, and punishments for the refractory, quite as efficacious as those at the disposal of rectitude. Let this great truth be once thoroughly apprehended; let it once be understood that we have not to choose between education and non-education, for the simple reason that non-education is an utter impossibility; let it not only be known, but felt that our choice is confined to education or mis-education—that we have to decide between possible good and positive evil, and

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nine-tenths of the controversies that have been raised on the subject will be instantly dismissed. No one on earth can deny that mis-education is a moral and mental malady, that should, for the sake of the community, be at once placed under efficient control. It does not require much prescience to see that an education unfitting youth to perform the duties of men and citizens is destructive to the individuals, and pernicious to society. But so long as the education preparing them for the discharge of these duties is withheld, the reverse process must flourish in full force. There is no standing still in this world, the mind exist only in progress, it must advance in some direction either to good or evil. The blank sheets of paper to which the mind of infancy has been compared, cannot long retain its pure vacuity. If the wise will not trace upon it the characters of good, the wicked will so sully it as to render it unsusceptible of any useful impressions, and cover it all over with uneffacable spells of evil. Ignorance does not mean a total absence of every kind of knowledge, nor does folly signify a total absence of every form of intelligence, but ignorance is depraved knowledge, and folly is depraved intelligence. When we once admit the fact, that ignorance is depraved knowledge, it will require little argument to prove it the necessary parent of crime. The inference is so obvious, the consequence so immediate, and the connection so palpable, that no statistical tables are necessary to the demonstration. It is often urged that a good national education will be very expensive; grant this argument; what then? The answer is plain, has not a vile mis-education lost the nation, for years past, large sums in public prosecutions, which monies, had they been expended in the reformation of young criminals, would have caused a diminution of crime, and an increase of happiness and security to the public. Therefore, let church and dissent, establishment and voluntaryism forget all minor differences to realise the sublime prospect, "when our sons may grow up as the young olive-trees, and our daughters as the polished corners of the temple."

A MAN AND A BROTHER.

IT was no rosewater revolution that passed over the United States of America some ten or a dozen years ago. Between the America of 1860 and 1875 there is a difference that, in the older nations of the world, might be measured by a century of change, yet many questions affecting the social life of the people have survived the "late unpleasantness," and still furnish material for the oratory of the stump and the watchword of party. For the most part these questions may be left to the people themselves. The popular sentiment, which, during the intoxication of successful war, applauded monstrous rogueries, under the thin disguise of commercial enterprise, and now identifies conspicuous wealth with public virtue, may be trusted to prove as fleeting as other popular sentiments elsewhere. Indeed, there have been many indications that, without the crowning mercy of a financial panic to quicken it, the intelligence of a free people will, sooner or later, provide a remedy for admitted evils. The difficulty is to get the evils acknowledged as such; when that is effected, their correction will follow in good time.

One of these burning questions, the peculiar institution of the Southern States, was always a fruitful source of discord for contending politicians, and now, ten years after its complete abolition, we find the status of "coloured citizens" the subject of anxious consideration to American statesmen. The "coloured pusson" is the hero of the hour. The civil rights of the emancipated negro engage the attention of every publicist, from Washington to Saratoga; from the Chief Judge of the Supreme Court to the doorkeepers of Morrissey's Faro Clubs. We do not propose to discuss the general question here. Our present object is simply to direct attention to a phase of the civil rights agitation, in which every Freemason will be deeply interested.

At Jackson, in the State of Michigan, there was held, last December, a meeting of "coloured Masons" to receive the report of a Committee appointed a year ago to petition the white Grand Lodge for recognition. How many of the twelve months were occupied in preparing the petition, and how many in considering the prayer of the supplicants, is not stated, but the answer was a refusal to grant a warrant, and, according to the report in the *Detroit News*, upon grounds exclusively technical.

As we understand the matter, no question was raised affecting the fitness of the petitioners for the desired honours. No irregularity of initiation was suggested, and no maimed rites were condemned. Nevertheless, "the Grand Lodge passed a resolution, affirming exclusive jurisdiction for over 30 years as a reason for refusing recognition." There is about this remarkable resolution all the laborious brevity which is the predominant characteristic of American newspaper literature, and which renders a large part of it unintelligible to English readers. But there can be no doubt upon the main point, the refusal of the warrant, and, as we think may be assumed, upon technical grounds solely.

The question that will naturally suggest itself to the outer world is this:—Are these men Masons? or are they not? and it is a question that calls for the serious attention of our American Brothers. If these men of Michigan are Masons in all save recognition by the whites, the action of Grand Lodge in withholding the boon appears incomprehensible. Regarded from the commonplace standpoint of expediency, it is impossible to approve a decision which prolongs and tends to promote the existence of irregularities that are scandalous to the Brotherhood at large.

From the higher view presented to the heart of a Mason, it is productive of more positive feelings; stronger, indeed, than we care to utter. Toleration, which is the offspring of Charity and Brotherly Love, is one of the grandest principles of our Order. Distinctions of creed or nationalities when invidious, are only known to Masons for reprobation: they are repudiated in our precepts and condemned in our laws. Pride and prejudice, whether begotten of rank or opinion, material wealth or intellectual culture, have no places in Masonry. It is the active principle of charity which sanctifies the aims and ennobles its members, and that principle has a wider scope and meaning than conventional interpreters accord to it on either side of the Atlantic. We shall not, ourselves, be unmindful of this high attribute of the Craft, nor be proved deficient in the distinguishing virtue of every faithful Mason.

In this spirit we hasten to acknowledge that it is not for us to pronounce judgment, even upon stronger evidence than the *ex parte* statement of a newspaper reporter. Moreover, we are unable to comprehend how such an obstacle as is dimly set forth in the resolution quoted should prevent the recognition of genuine Masons by the heads of the Order.

It may be, and it doubtless is so, that there were other and sufficient reasons for the action of Grand Lodge. But the prayer of the "coloured Masons" of Jackson, and its rejection by the "white folks," furnish a curious corollary to our proposition of 2nd January: "There are thousands unrecognised, professing affiliation with the great brotherhood throughout the Union, who have no more right so to do than they would have to proclaim themselves kings by divine right."

The regular committee meeting of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, was held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Bro. Major Creaton in the chair. Bro. Jas. Terry read the minutes of the former meeting, they were unanimously confirmed. The Warden's report was read, with that of the House Committee, showing repairs were necessary. Several candidates for the next election, both male and female, were placed on the list, and other matters in connection with the Institution were discussed. There were present Bros. B. Head, H. Browse, J. Brett, T. Cubitt, J. Constable, F. Adlan Newton, Griffiths Smith, L. Stean, W. Stephens, Hyde Pullen, W. Hale, Hilton, J. Stephens, C. A. Cottebrune, C. Hogard, H. M. Levy. A vote of thanks to the Chairman followed, and the meeting was adjourned to the second Wednesday in the next month.

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MASONIC RENCONTRES — THE TWO ISTHMUS.

BY BRO. WALTER SPENCER, F.R.G.S., &c.

EARLY in 1863, I arrived in the comfortable P.M.C. steamer "Bolivia" at Panama, after a charming passage along the South American shores, over the harmless waters of the tropical Pacific. Inspired with youth and health and charmed with memories of travel, of the great plateaus east of the Andes, of their mighty mountain passes, of the lovely stretches of forest and champaign betwixt them and the confluence of the Amazon, of the ruined cities of the Incas, and of deserted Jesuit missions in the far interior, I felt that no natural obstacle could daunt me, that there was no distant spot to which man could not penetrate, no desolation he could not explore. Landed at the old city, visions of Pizarro and Almagro rose before me, starting on their career towards unknown discoveries, which were to culminate in the conquest of a continent; of arrivals and departures, of old caravels bearing successive Viceroys to the land of gold, of intrigue and tumult which the old town had witnessed, as adventurers hurried to greet every new satrap in hopes of supplanting the favourites of the one recalled. I leaned over the decaying battlements, by the rusty cannon, which still speak haughtily of bygone terrors when the keys of the Pacific were their own, and strained my eyes at the forest on the further shore, to discern the ruins which tell of the desolation inflicted by Morgan and his buccaneers. The desire came strong upon me to explore those gorgeous forests, to revel in their emerald tints alone, and greedily to monopolise the glories of nature in her most lovely array. I was homeward bound; might have scant opportunity for more explorations; was not tied to a few days. Why should I not *walk across the Isthmus?* There was an old mule path used before the opening of the railway. I would find it out.

On return to the hotel, "Aspinwall House," (where my fellow passengers had been disgusted at Spanish-American cookery,—viands swimming in oil) in the evening, on a cool balcony, where gentlemen smoked delicious new Havannahs and ladies lulled themselves in rocking chairs enlivened by occasional "chaff" with street vendors of black pearls, tortoiseshell, vanilla beans and plantain fans, I broached my project, and was greeted with derisive yells by the male, and a chorus of little screams by the female members of our party. Next morning, kind Mrs. ——, the wife of our good old Commodore, took me to task seriously on the subject. Her dissuasion, for my then frame of mind, was unfortunately calculated: she recounted anecdotes of horror, of the midnight plunderers, who from the woods made periodical raids on the outskirts of the city, of recent crimes committed in the villages, of the ferocity of the negro squatters, and the danger from wild beasts: to which comforting anecdotes I promised to give full consideration. Armed with a letter of introduction I called on the Peruvian Consul, D. Antonio Rubio, asking for information and advice as to the route. He stared aghast, and hurredly took up his hat, saying he would go at once to the railway authorities and get me a free pass by train. He thought I *must* be compelled through lack of funds. Any one who has had to deal with a Spanish-American or Spaniard will know that the idea of walking, when there is a possibility of riding, would never enter his head. When undeceived on this point, he was kind enough to enliven me with statistics of the ravages made by fevers among the white population; with the moral that I should certainly break down in some negro hovel 'ere I had got halfway across.

This current of opposition somewhat modified my plans. Unable to get information as to the route without considerable unpleasantness, in order to carry out my view I decided to depart secretly. The railway track could not be missed: on that I determined to rely, using it as a base-line from which to make such excursions as fancy might dictate. Returning to the hotel, I entrusted my luggage to an American fellow-traveller bound by train to Aspinwall, with instruction to deposit it duly at the "Howard House;" retaining a broad brimmed *Guayaquil* hat, light strong trousers, a colonial *jumper*,* a sword-stick and revolver-belt, which the jumper would conceal. These, a bottle of sulph. quin., and some dollars in my pocket, with a brandy-flask at my side, would serve my purpose. A change of linen would be cumbersome, and might tempt cupidity; the distance from ocean to ocean was but forty-eight miles, and might even be accomplished in a night. It seemed wiser to travel by night only; the fearful heat of the day, even in the glades of the forest, would be harder to bear than even the densest night malaria.

Without leave-taking of any one, therefore, I set out at seven that evening in bright moonlight, for regions unknown; without a thought except of an adventurous ramble with a happy issue, and in all the buoyancy of youthful spirits. My pipe, good store of tobacco, and matches not forgotten, I "lighted up," and struck out of a street, across fields that would land me on to the "Line" well out of the town. The hum of the population and the tinkling of guitars died dreamily away, as I bounded on to the sleepers and swung gaily along the track. For some distance on the line I passed clusters of hovels, and then entered a narrow way between the dark matted giants of the tropical bush. The moon disappeared at ten o'clock, and the white mist rising round me, clinging amid the dense vegetation, showed that I had really entered the dreaded miasma of fœtid swamps. I stopped to fortify myself, with quinine from the point of a penknife, washed down with Cognac. Vegetable growths in rank rottenness, densely packed, were perspiring a thick steam, and I seemed to scent fever as I passed along. Strange horried insects and reptiles crawled, or scampered off the path. At about 11 p.m. I caught the sound of footsteps, at a distance, following mine; full of the stories of negro treachery and what not, I took out my revolver, and, as the stranger approached, cried out, in Spanish, "*Quien vive.*" The reply was of surprise, in English: and, somewhat reassured, I queried, "Who the D——l are you?" "United States sloop 'Thecla,'" replied the invisible; "what's up?" "Whither bound?" I asked. "On the tramp across." "Come on," I called, cautiously, prepared for a ruse. The starlight was sparkling and beautiful, the place an open glade, and the stranger appeared in the garb of a seaman, having a bundle slung over his shoulder from a stick. A deserter apparently. On questioning him, I found it was so. His intention was to stow himself away in a steamer on arrival at Aspinwall, and to work his way to New York as a fireman. We joined company; the companionship proved not uncongenial, but after midnight his pace slackened, and seeing him stoop to drink from a rill which trickled out of the bush, I pulled him back, and, with a caution against drinking *essence of fever*, fortified him from the flask and with a pinch of quinine. At about 1 a.m. we heard a regular tramp, as of soldiery approaching from the opposite quarter, and both apprehensive, we drew into the bush. Presently the oncoming band burst into a chorus, soon resolvable into "*Was ist des Deutschen Vaterland.*" A party of Germans, on their way across, bound, they said (for I was rejoiced to speak again the dear old German tongue), for *San Francisco.* Artisans of various trades, travelling cheaply as Germans know how, on their way to strengthen with their sense and sinew, the glorious State of California. Shortly after this little episode, when close to a clearing amid which we could distinguish a dark group of huts, my companion sat down on a stump, and declared he must have a rest. We had passed various stations in the darkness along the line, but there was one larger which I now was anxious to reach, determining not to travel further after sunrise, and nothing doubting but that my dollars would secure me shelter and a good reception.

Not wishing to part company, I said, "Well, come with me; we'll get some refreshment;" and, stumbling along over the stumps to the first hut, rapped at the door, shouting twice, "*Quieren ustedes dinero*"—"Do you want money?" I could hear a startled occupant go through the various grunts and rustlings which betoken awakening consciousness, bursting at last into a chuckle as the meaning of the unexpected query dawned upon him. "Because," I added, "for a cup of coffee you shall have a dollar." This brought to the door an aged nigger, on the broad grin, who admitted us, and proceeded to strike a light by the friction of two sticks, until cut short by the ignition of a match. Around, upon a flooring of plantain leaves, lay his interesting family, who sat up, rubbing their eyes and staring at the intruders. In a wonderfully short time the fire was lighted—on the same floor—no chimney—and an earthen pot was boiling upon it. In less than half an hour we were imbibing a hot

* *Jumper*, a thin blue serge sleeved smock, reaching to the hips.

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fragrant beverage without milk or sugar, that I really have often fancied I have not known equalled since; after which, our dollar being paid, we thanked our host and departed. We jogged on again through the same horrible swamp miasma, till a glow of violet radiance gradually spread overhead, and then we seemed to enter full daylight all at once. Then began, from all sides, a screaming and trilling and chattering, sounds of fluttering and rustling and croaking; the whole forest was tremulous with sounds of life. We now sighted ahead, the station I was in search of—*San Pablo;* perceiving already signs of life about, I quickened my pace and hastened to meet a white-clad gentleman who emerged from under the green verandah; but first looked round for my comrade. He was gone—vanished. To be known along the line was evidently no part of his plan, and I saw him no more; but have often wondered whether he effected his escape, or whether the too vigilant care of the U. S. Consul at Aspinwall, provided him with lodgings and a passage back. It may have been a highly improper sentiment, and merit the reprobation of right-minded people, but I could not help sending my sympathies after him. Greeting the new comer in English, I told him I wanted accommodation for the day, when he turned surlily upon me, "*Not much, young man, you don't carry on your little games here.*" Taken quite aback, I stammered out, "But I am willing to pay, I thought to find accommodation at any station on the line." "Tramps won't get much out of me, I can tell yer, so you'd better *vamos* as quick as you like." Tired, and now feeling unpleasantly moist in my heated clothes, I expostulated in vain. He lived there with his family, and would take no one in, but at length relaxed so far as to give me a scrawl on a bit of paper, for a dependent stationed some miles further on, directing him to give me needful food and shelter, on payment. I had not felt so sold since one evening years before, when arriving at the *Grimsel Hospice* about sunset, our party found there not even a truss of straw unoccupied, and had to tramp over snow and ice, miles further on to Handeck. There was no alternative, so stimulated by another sup of Cognac and a renewed pipeful, I continued on. At about eight I reached "Frijoli," and was so fortunate as to find the official in charge, *M. César Giraudier.* He read dubiously, the scrawl of introduction, said he had strict instructions against receiving any one; thought that it must have been given simply to get rid of me, &c. Alarmed for the result, I was about to implore him, and to offer *any price* for simple shelter, when his gentlemanly appearance, or the intelligence in his eye, or some impulse I know not what, induced me, as though by accident, to make the Mason's sign. "Come in," he said, "don't stand out there in the sun, you'll get a sunstroke. I'll have breakfast ready now. Take your boots off. *Mon frère, vous êtes chez vous.*" Here was a change—little did I expect, when made a Master Mason three months previous, in the good *Duke of Leinster's Lodge*, at Lima, so soon to reap the benefits of Brotherhood. Eased from the blazing sunshine and enjoying the cool shadows of the closed venetians, I reclined on a cane sofa, whilst my host rushed about shouting to his negro help; and soon, upon the coarse rumpled tablecloth, were seen a smoking dish of iguana's eggs, two appetising mugs of creamy chocolate, and a pile of hard biscuits. Used to all sorts of fare, I by no means disdained this, and pronounced the eggs, delicate meat fit for an Empress.

"Now," said my new brother, "I have my duties to attend to. A train will pass this afternoon, and I must see that all's clear; from the back of this there leads an avenue down to the creek, a branch of the *Chagres*, go and have a bath; don't mind the alligators, they are but small ones, the large Caymans never come so near the house." I took the advice, and was not molested; after which I found my way to a delicious glen near, in the forest, where the bright sky was only visible here and there through delicate tracery of foliage, down which its glowing light gilded or bronzed the edges of leaves and branches, like glittering foil. It was a very lovely spot. I lay down, on a slope, and gazed upward. Innumerable birds and winged insects, of unspeakably gorgeous colours, flew across, whirled about, and danced madly athwart in every direction. So small were the humming birds, and so large the lepidoptera, it was in vain I tried to distinguish one from the other in their rapid flight. Twined inextricably from branch to branch, ran clusters of creepers, blossoming orchids amid which the lovely *Flor del Espiritu Santo* was conspicuous. Here I fell asleep, till 5 o'clock; woke none the worse, and returned to the house. During the evening with my new found friend, we exchanged experiences. At home he had been clerk in a telegraph office; wanted to travel; emigrated to New Orleans; the war broke out—not sympathising with the South, he had gone further on and come to an anchor here. The life was beginning to pall upon him; there was an abandoned gold mine in the neighbourhood, formerly worked by the Spaniards; the Indians had a rumour of fabulous mineral wealth in these parts; he had a mind to invest in plant, hire labourers, and set to work. Amongst other topics broached, was table turning, and he imparted to me an experience, noteworthy only from what will be seen in the sequel. He was acquainted at home with one "Allan Cardec," whom he described as an extraordinary mystic, and for whom he avowed great veneration. This man held remarkable theories, and was a professor of what is now know as "Spiritism." "In his company," said my host, "my hand, when resting on his table, used to be moved about, in a manner against my will, and on his assurance, I occasionally allowed it to write sentences with a pencil, when long moral precepts and trite advice, such as *Do no one injury*, used to be written, by means quite apart from my volition. Contemplating emigration, I was instigated to ask my hand a question, and demanded, 'Shall I live abroad?' The answer was, *En Orient tu mouriras.* Piqued at this, and having my thoughts fixed upon America, I determined to falsify the strange prediction, and you see, here I am." We laughed and wondered at this aimless story, and at 9 o'clock the moon being well up, I rose to go, having had enough of the Isthmus and being determined to get to Aspinwall next morning. Giraudier refused all remuneration, which, in fact, I only ventured to hint at; but he could not refuse to accept my sword-stick as a reminder of this strange rencontre with a *Brother* in the woods. He walked with me as far as *Stephens's Tree*, entertaining me with anecdotes of the road, which is said locally to have cost a human life for every sleeper laid down on it, and we took leave, mutually regretting the severance of our short companionship and without a thought that our widely different destinies could ever bring us again in contact.

(*Sequel in our next.*)

On Wednesday and Thursday evenings the members of the City Police Force held their annual festival, in the large room of the new Ward Schools, Bishopsgate, which was kindly lent for the occasion by the Rev. William Rogers. Colonel Frazer, the Commissioner of Police, Major Bowman, the Chief Superintendent, Mr. Foster, assistant Superintendent, Mr. Alfred De Rothschild, and Mr. Freshfield, of the Bank of England, were among the chief guests. A very large proportion of the members of the force, with their wives and families, attended, and took part in the dancing with great spirit. Bro. J. R. Foulger, acted as M.C. A sleight of hand entertainment, by Mr. Creamer jun., was much enjoyed, as also were some songs and glees, which were given under the direction of Rev. Bro. J. T. Smith. The band of the Police Orphanage, composed of boys attending the schools, was present, and performed in a creditable manner. In the course of Wednesday evening, Mr. Alfred De Rothschild, addressing the members of the force present, took occasion to say that the movement was one in which he entirely concurred, and that it had afforded him great pleasure to be present on the occasion; expressing, at the same time, his regret at the absence, from indisposition, of the Rev. Mr. Rogers. He added that he had great pleasure in acting on the Managing Committee, for, in his opinion, there was no class of men in the whole community more useful than the Police, not only of the City and Metropolis generally, but of the country at large. At this festive season it was often seen how roughly a policeman was treated in a pantomime, and the great good nature he invariably displayed showed that while he was one of the best tempered members of society, he was always bent upon doing his duty. The band of the force, under the able direction of Mr. F. A. Rattray, performed most admirably. We are glad to hear that several gentlemen of influence in the City, to mark their sense of the very efficient manner in which the duties of the force are discharged, have determined to contribute a sum sufficient to cover the whole cost of both entertainments.

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REVIEWS.

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All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, 67 Barbican, E.C.

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Oliver's Masonic Jurisprudence; a New Edition. Edited by Walter Spenser, Esq., F.R.G.S. London: Spenser. 1874.

SECOND NOTICE.

Our former notice of this work extended only to Craft Lodges, and we have now to redeem our tacit promise, and follow the author through the higher grades of Masonry, upon which he throws considerable light. He has collected a body of precedent and ceremonial which possesses the great advantage of being perfectly accurate; and his strictures upon those who from time to time have attempted to degrade Masonry, or who were too apathetic to perform the high functions pertaining to the Provincial Grand Lodge, are very just. The Provincial Grand Master naturally claims the first consideration of our author, who sets forth his duties and privileges most clearly and ably. "A Provincial Grand Lodge should be formed of the master spirits of each Lodge; for they are the only men who are likely to promote its interests, and make its machinery conduce to the general benefit of society in the province." As Dr. Oliver justly observes, if especial care were always taken in the introduction of members, the laws would be punctually observed, and he cites the well known practice of the Swiss Lodges, which, in our opinion, err on the side of two great strictness and severity. Upon the question of the qualifications necessary for the Provincial Grand Officers, it is somewhat difficult to speak fully here, but we may say that a little care in judging of the talents and acquirements of candidates will never be thrown away. A man who is half-hearted, or whose zeal for Masonry is on the decline, should never be permitted to wear the purple. It has happened before now that a Provincial Grand Master, careless of the interests of the Craft, has spread apathy or discontent through an entire district; and even when this high functionary is inspired with proper enthusiasm, it is highly necessary that he should be seconded by able and energetic subordinates. The right man in the right place is a homely maxim, which applies to the Craft as fully and completely as it does to the world. Freemasonry is a great social compact, and he who aspires to distinction must place his talents at the disposal of his brethren, for the general good of the Order. With respect to the Provincial Grand Lodge, we rather regret that the editor of the work before us has not thrown out a suggestion for more frequent meetings. Our laws enact that it shall assemble at least once a year; instances have indeed occurred where it has not been called together for a period of three years, but such cases, in these days of perfect railway communication, are, we hope, exceedingly rare. As the Provincial Grand Lodge is, so to speak, the fount of Freemasonry, towards which all the Lodges within its jurisdiction look for light and guidance, more frequent meetings could not but conduce to the good of the Order; zeal for the cause would be excited by their more frequent ceremonials, which are interesting and instructive in the highest degree. The old system of public processions, no doubt, attracted a certain class to our ranks, but we cannot agree with our author in the opinion that their suppression was disastrous. It is only an uneducated mind which is influenced by the display of Masonic regalia, and at the period when public processions were discountenanced, the "Odd Fellows" and "Old Friends," and other similar secret societies, frequently attempted a burlesque of Masonic form. The public visit to the parish Church was doubtless a good old custom, but Masons are able to show their respect for T.G.A.O.T.U. without resorting to public ceremonial, in which, often, the meaning was lost or forgotten in the blaze of jewellery and costume.

Of the author's remarks upon the Grand Lodge, the great legislative centre of Freemasonry, we need say little, since we cordially agree in the main with his opinions. We may, however, remind our readers of the attempt, which was made in the year 1768, to incorporate it by Act of Parliament. The design was supported by the Duke of Beaufort, the then Grand Master, and in 1771 a bill was brought into Parliament by the Hon. Charles Dillon, the Deputy Grand Master, but on the second reading it was opposed by Mr. Onslow, on behalf of a number of the brethren who had petitioned against it, and the design of an incorporation fell to the ground. This curious episode in the history of the Order is carefully recorded in the work before us, and to some of our readers it will be quite new.

We have left ourselves no space to comment upon the last section of the work, which is devoted to the laws relating to the Royal Arch Degree, and we must, therefore, refer the Mason desirous of instruction in the customs and ceremonials of this sublime step in Masonic progress to the book itself, which will afford him all the information he may need upon this and kindred questions.

Social Pressure. By the author of "Friends in Council." London: Daldy, Isbister and Co., 56 Ludgate Hill. 1875.

Among the essayists of the day, none stand so deservedly high in the estimation of the public as the author of "Friends in Council." Since the appearance of that now familiar work, the author has published many books—some historical, and some biographical. He has essayed the *rôle* of romancist; he has published "Thoughts on Government," and other similarly interesting volumes. In all cases his labours have been duly appreciated by the public. Yet, successful as he has been thus far, Sir Arthur Helps seems determined that his literary fame shall go on increasing. "Social Pressure" may not perhaps surpass his "Friends in Council," to which, in fact, it is a sequel; but it is fully equal to it, and that is saying much, for sequels are not unfrequently failures. We are apt to institute a too severe comparison between the first and the latest of any series of essays. We fancy we see the same thoughts or line of thought reproduced, only in somewhat different language. We mark the recurrence of any weak points that may formerly have attracted our attention; we pass, with hardly a word of praise, the repetition of former excellence. We become, in fact, hypercritical, and unintentionally, no doubt, incline towards severity when our duty is to be impartial. In the present instance there is no fear even of hypercriticism. "Social Pressure" will bear even the pressure of the severest and least friendly criticism. The same "Friends" appear in conclave, and discuss sundry topics of popular interest. In the essays which deal with these topics, as in the discussions that follow the several essays, these amiable friends present always the idiosyncrasies which have marked them on all previous occasions. One is practical, another caustic, a third argumentative, while a fourth indulges somewhat in repartee. All, however, display the same admirable qualities, while the style in which the subjects are treated, and afterwards talked over, leaves little, if anything to be desired, either as regards language or matter.

Among the topics to which our friends direct their attention in these pages, two will especially recommend themselves to the notice of our readers. These are the essays on "Ridicule" and "Over-Publicity." In the former case, the form of ridicule which is so severely and, we may add, so justly censured, is the kind vulgarly known as "chaffing." Chaff, we all know, is harmless enough if confined within proper limits. It may, and indeed often does, amount to nothing more than a friendly interchange of banter. Falstaff is chaffed, for instance, about his adventure with the men in "buckram" and in "Lincoln Green;" but the tone which Prince Hal and Poins adopt towards their fat comrade in dissipation is essentially a friendly one; there is nothing ill-natured or unkind in what they say. Gratiano was severe in his chaff of the rascal Shylock; but our sympathies are not with the Jew, who, had it been possible, would have taken "his pound of flesh." We feel he merits the severe verbal chastisement which Gratiano inflicts upon him. The antiquary, again, chaffs his nephew, Hector McIntyre, about his misadventure with the *phoca*; but here again the chaff, though a little trying to the choleric young Highlander, has nothing ill-natured in it. The chaff to which the essayist objects is that witless, inane, and cruel kind of ridicule, which is so common among the lower order of Cockneys—the chaff which selects for its butt a scar that recals unpleasant memories, a deformity of the body, respecting which the person attacked is keenly sensitive; a defect of speech or vision, or some old slip in manners or language, which he deeply regrets, or is heartily ashamed to have committed. Chaff of this kind is rightly described as cruel, for it causes pain, and as witless, for, in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, the man who chaffs simply repeats himself again and again *ad nauseam*. We are entirely at one with the author in his severe animadversion on this description of ridicule, and we feel assured our readers, while they never object to the harmless interchange of pleasantry, are as strongly opposed as ourselves to saying or hinting at anything likely to embarrass a friend or brother. Chaff of this sort is un-Masonic, and no Mason would intentionally indulge in it.

The essay on Over-Publicity almost equally commends itself to the brotherhood. We are sorry to say the world of late years has become over inquisitive, not about matters generally and properly interesting to the whole body politic, but respecting those which direct and regulate the private relations of individuals. Nothing pleases a mixed company so much as the narration of some little scandal affecting the character or habits of one known to them, either personally, or even by name only. A certain honour attaches to him who relates this latest piece of news. Mysterious nods and winks follow the narration, as though each one hearing it were delighted beyond measure. "I thought as much," says one; "I fully expected it," chimes in another, and each chuckles and goes his way. It never occurs, either to the tell-tale, or to the listeners, that this amounts to a cruel invasion of the privacy of life. The weaknesses or shortcomings of our neighbours should be repressed and kept as private as possible. They are not a fit subject for the tittle-tattler who cares not whom he injures, so he retains or extends his fame as a newsmonger of what is or should be private and confidential. But there is a worse kind of over-publicity than even this, or perhaps, we should rather say, a

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over-publicity thats bids fair to be more widely, and even universally disastrous. We mean the publication of memoirs, in which are recorded the sayings and doings of many and different persons, or of their nearest and dearest relatives and friends. A prominent case of this kind, which has recently come before the world, will best illustrate our meaning. There have been latterly published the Greville Journals. In proportion as these contain facts and opinions of a strictly private character, and with which therefore the public is generally unacquainted, in the same proportion will they excite the interest of all classes. The personages who figure in the pages of these memoirs are among the highest and most esteemed of our public men, during the last half-century. Mr. Greville was admitted to free and familiar intercourse with them by reason, chiefly, of his official position as Clerk of the Council. Yet has he not scrupled to note down facts connected with their private life, or record his opinions, often in unbefitting language, respecting their private conduct and relations. These are now published to the world, though some of the actors are yet living, and, as far as we know, without so much as consulting the friends and kindred of those who are dead and gone. We cannot too severely condemn such a violation of trust. There are many classes of men—Masons among the number—to whom the most important secrets are entrusted, or who are placed or place themselves under an obligation to maintain certain things secret and inviolable; and he who betrays the trust reposed in him, must have, to say the least, a very eccentric idea of what constitutes honour.

We have selected these two essays for lengthy comment, not only because they are specimens of the author's method of handling his subject, but because the objects he has no doubt had in view in writing them will be more fully appreciated by the class to whom our observations are addressed. But we should fail in our duty if we limited our praise to these particular essays. There are others equally admirable on "The Art of Leaving Off," on "The Folly of Mankind," "That towns may be too large," &c., &c., while the conversations are witty, and sparkle with epigram. With these remarks we commend "Social Pressure" to the attention of our readers, in the full persuasion that they will derive an infinite amount of pleasure from a study of its contents.

Our Song: The Compass, Book and Square. Written by Francis Bennoch, Esq., F.S.A., P.M. No. 1. Composed by Donald W. King, P.M. No. 12. London: 48 Woburn Place, Russell Square.

We have received a copy of the above, which, from its enlivening strain, must commend itself to our musical brothers. It is within the compass of an ordinary tenor voice, and will no doubt be acceptable as a standard Masonic song.

LITERATURE.

A Tour in the Saddle in Search of the Beautiful, by J. T. Spencer. London: Charing Cross Publishing Company.

This little *brochure* is the work of an artist who, like many gentlemen of his profession, handles the pen as cleverly as he wields his pencil. The scene of the author's tour, which was undertaken entirely for artistic purposes, is the charming Lake District of Cumberland, which he visited in the spring of the year, when nature, by way of contrast to the glowing browns of autumn, about which painters rave, puts on her varied tints of delicate green. The work is written in a flowing and spirited style, and we need not add that Mr. Spencer managed to fill his sketch book with choice "bits" of mountain and glen. His pleasant gossip will be appreciated by readers who desire to know how a painter can talk about nature and the beautiful.

The Charing Cross Magazine seems to include some amateurs on its staff. The general matter is pretty good, and the serial stories are interesting, but an ambitious paper, on the momentous question of "Life after Death," contains so much false reasoning and so many puny arguments that we are surprised to see it in a magazine of position and influence. Having travelled over the same ground as the writer of the article, we were curious to see if he had contributed any additional evidence upon a question which puzzles so many people just now. We confess, however, that his attempts at reasoning, which, no doubt, have all the charm of novelty to a writer who appears to have no idea of the elementary principles of logic, rather disgusted us. Arguments which are good enough for the nursery should not be paraded before the world, and if the writer is wise enough to take a little friendly advice, we may remind him that the logical infidel justly throws the onus of proof upon those who assert that man lives hereafter. Believing, as we do most unfeignedly, in a future life, we have little or no patience with the antiquated "chrysalis and butterfly argument," which, pursued to its logical end, only proves, if accepted as an analogy, that man dies a second time when he reaches his butterfly stage of existence. We may add, that the writer's pen plays such odd pranks with his style that we are inclined to think it must have been loaded with quicksilver.

Club House Playing Cards.—Mogul Quality, picked 1s 3d per pack, 14s per dozen packs. Do. seconds 1s per pack, 11s per dozen packs. If by post 1½d per pack extra. Cards for Piquet, Bézique, Ecarté, &c., Mogul Quality 10d per pack, 9s per dozen packs.—London: W. W. Morgan, 57 Barbican, E.C.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

At the Court of Governors of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, held on Monday morning, at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, under the presidency of Mr. Henry Brouse, a vice-patron. It appears, from the statement submitted, that the number of boys educated and maintained in the school had increased, in the last 12 years, from 72 to 176, while the number, since the foundation of the Institution, in 1798, amounted to 1,266. The receipts for the year 1874, showed a total of £10,186, inclusive of a grant of £466 from Grand Chapter. It was announced that the 77th anniversary festival will be held on Wednesday, 30th June, on which occasion M.W. Pro. Grand Master the Right Honourable the Earl of Carnarvon will preside. Having transacted its ordinary business, the Court then adjourned. The following is a list of the 48 candidates from whom eight will be elected into the Institution by ballot at Freemason's Hall on Monday, 12th April next, the ballot commencing at, or before, one, and closing at three o'clock precisely.—

SEVENTH APPLICATION.

1. James Thomas Marks.

SIXTH APPLICATION.

2. James Armytage Buttrey.
3. Henry Morrison Shipway.

FIFTH APPLICATION.

4. Robert Duff.
5. James Earl Storey Graham.

FOURTH APPLICATION.

6. Charles Henry Cromwell.
7. William Reginald Hunter.

THIRD APPLICATION.

8. Vincent John Lee.
9. George Augustus Wimpey.
10. William Astle Cooke.
11. Arthur David Kerr.
12. John Tom Swallow.
13. Donald Steward Wharton Hambly.
14. James Herbert Rees.
15. George Samuel Cox.
16. Richard Thomas Gardner.
17. Leonard Wain.

SECOND APPLICATION.

18. Alfred Greville Vivian.
19. William Christopher Ludlow.
20. George Randall Allison.
21. Richard George Head.
22. Gilbert Palmer Sheridan Perrin.
23. James Archibald Barclay.
24. Arthur Frederick Lemarchand.
25. Percy James.
26. Victor Hugh Fairfield.
27. William Henry Jackson.
28. Charles Frederick Austin.

FIRST APPLICATION.

29. Henry Waller Stock.
30. James Thomas London Slate.
31. James Sanders Davies.
32. Charles Henry Jackson.
33. Elwood Blake Tibbetts.
34. Percy Norman Gibham.
35. John Henry Gurney.
36. Alfred James Green.
37. Charles Edgar Armitage.
38. Wrightson Robert Bryant.
39. Robert Walter Keddell.
40. Stanley Heppell Service.
41. George William Stanton.
42. George William Pinner.
43. Alfred Christopher Quelch.
44. Charles William Johnson.
45. John Butterworth.
46. George Arthur Dawson.
47. Joseph Gover.
48. Thomas Smith Pilling.

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THE THEATRES, &c.

COVENT GARDEN.—At 7.0, THE VIVANDIERE. At 7.45, THE BABES IN THE WOOD.

DRURY LANE.—At 7.0, TEN OF 'EM. At 7.30, ALADDIN.

HAYMARKET.—At 7.30, OUR AMERICAN COUSIN and THE LOAN OF A LOVER.

ADELPHI.—At 7.0, THE DREAM AT SEA and THE CHILDREN IN THE WOOD.

PRINCESS'S.—At 7.0, LOST IN LONDON and BEAUTY AND THE BEAST.

LYCEUM.—At 6.30, FISH OUT OF WATER. At 7.45, HAMLET.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.0, TWENTY MINUTES WITH A TIGER. AT 7.30, THE TWO ORPHANS.

STRAND.—At 7.0, INTRIGUE. At 7.30, OLD SAILORS. At 9.15, LOO AND THE PARTY WHO TOOK MISS.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 7.45, SWEETHEARTS and SOCIETY.

GAIETY.—AT 7.0, BENGAL TIGER. At 8.15, MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR.

GLOBE.—At 7.0, A PRETTY PIECE OF BUSINESS. At 8.0, BLUE BEARD.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.0, LEGACY LOVE. At 7.45, TWO ROSES. At 10, ROMULUS AND REMUS.

CHARING CROSS.—DRAWING THE LINE and THE NEW MAGDALEN.

OPERA COMIQUE.—At 7.0, WAR TO THE KNIFE. At 8.15, IXION RE-WHEELED.

COURT.—At 7.30, PEACOCK'S HOLIDAY. At 8.30, BRIGHTON.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.0, THE TWO BONNYCASTLES. At 7.45, WHITTINGTON.

CRITERION.—LES PRES SAINT GERVAIS, &c.

AMPHITHEATRE, HOLBORN.—At 7.0, THE WATERMAN. At 8.15, MADAME ANGOT.

SURREY.—At 7.0, FORTY THIEVES.

PHILHARMONIC.—At 7.30, THE WATERMAN. At 8.30, LA FILLE DE MADAME ANGOT and the GREAT DOBBS.

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FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE

67 BARBICAN, E.C.

HOME QUESTIONS.

LAST week we congratulated our readers on the prospect of a quiet Parliamentary Session. There are, happily, no burning questions of a political character to agitate the public mind. But though, as regards *la haute politique*, we may take to heart and act upon the advice of a certain venerable Whig statesman, to "rest and be thankful," it by no means follows that the coming Session need be altogether barren of results. Now, of all others, is the time for sound practical legislation, such as will tend to promote the social well-being of the community. For instance, the sanitary condition of our large cities and towns leaves much to be desired. We are, or at least, we boast that we are, essentially a practical people. Yet we hardly act up to the character we claim for ourselves, or the need for better sanitary arrangements throughout the country would be far less urgent. To select one instance out of the many that have latterly been the subject of public comment—the condition of Oxford, one of our two university towns, is the reverse of creditable to the local sanitary authorities, if the report be true that sundry undergraduates have died, and H.R.H. Prince Leopold is still suffering from the effects of typhoid fever. This huge metropolis of ours, again, is by no means as well cared for in the matter of health as is desirable. There are no end of fever-dens within what are known as the "Bills of Mortality," a very ominous name indeed, if we bear in mind how densely populated are the poorer districts of London. It seems to us that local authorities generally follow the example of the man who shut the stable door when the steed had gone. They are clever enough in tracing to its source the outbreak of any disease, when its ravages have been stayed, but slow to prevent such outbreaks. We have a Central Authority at Whitehall, whose duty it is to look after the health of the country. Let this Central Authority be made more real, and local boards of health may then be energetic before, instead of after, the need for energy has arisen. Here, at least, is one question which may occupy the attention of Parliament this year, with advantage to the public.

Another subject for discussion at St. Stephen's, is whether sterner repressive measures shall not be taken to put down a certain form of ruffianism, which has attracted much notice within the last few months. We mean the cruel practice of wife-beating. Scarcely a day passes but we read of some poor unfortunate woman being half beaten to a jelly by her brutal husband. Many there are who think the "Cat" may prove an effectual remedy against this particular class of crime, while others are entirely opposed to such mode of punishment. It is not our province to discuss the merits of either side of this momentous question. One remark, however, we may safely venture to make, no amount or kind of punishment that can be administered will have a brutalising effect upon these ruffianly fellows. It is not possibly for a man, who half kills her, whom, of all others, he is bound to cherish and protect, to descend to a lower depth of brutality. It may or may not be expedient to administer the Cat in such cases, but if it be administered the culprit will sustain no injury to his morals. However, we shall soon learn the intentions of Government in dealing with this question. We believe the Home Secretary has instituted certain inquiries as to the effect of flogging in connection with garotte robberies. No doubt he will be influenced in any measures he may propose to take by the tenour of the report he receives in reply to such inquiries. All we hope for is, that this particular kind of ruffianism may be successfully repressed; we leave it to the wisdom of Parliament to select the likeliest means to secure this object.

Yet another question commends itself seriously to the notice of Parliament—the seaworthiness of our merchant ships.

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No class of men have a stronger claim upon the protection of Government than our seamen. We are a naval power, and it is upon the men of our Merchant Navy that we must ultimately rely in the time of war; if our War Navy, at least, is to maintain its ancient renown. *Apropos* of this subject, we are glad to notice that on Thursday afternoon a deputation of gentlemen, representing the shipping interest, waited upon the First Lord of the Admiralty, with a view to urging upon the right honourable gentleman the desirability of providing training ships for the Royal Navy in connection with the Mercantile Marine. Mr. Ward Hunt received the deputation with his usual courtesy, listening to their suggestions with the utmost attention, and promising that the Government would give the question their most careful consideration.

Other matters of great importance will, doubtless, engage the attention of Parliament—Legal, Educational, and Military Reform. But if only the three subjects we have refered to are dealt with successfully, the Legislature will have little cause to be ashamed of its work in the Session of 1875.

We learn, from the *Ottawa Weekly Citizen*, that the officers for the present year of the Corinthian Lodge, No. 39, were duly installed by Rt. Worshipful Bro. E. C. Barber; those of the Doric Lodge, No. 58, by Rt. Worshipful Bro. John Gemmell, and those of the Chaudiere Lodge, No. 264, by Rt. Worshipful Bro. Barber P.D.D.G.M., and the installation of officers in the Civil Service Lodge has been postponed in honour of the marriage of the W.M.

At a meeting of the Masonic Archæological Institute, held at the Hall of the Supreme Grand Council, 33 Golden Square, on Monday evening, Bro. R. G. Haliburton, of St John's, Nova Scotia, delivered a very able and interesting lecture, "The Pre-historic Vestiges of Masonic Symbolism." The lecturer, who is known as the discoverer of the "Year of the Pleiades," sought to prove that Masonic Symbols supplied a key to the common origin of the religions of all nations, and that they had at the outset not only an emblematical, but likewise a positive significance in relation to primitive astronomy. A discussion ensued, and, owing to the importance of the subject raised, was adjourned to a future meeting. The Earl of Carnarvon was to have presided, but his Lordship was unable to be present, owing to the severe illness of the Countess.

We note already the usual premonitory symptoms that not long hence London will be labouring under its annual attack of Blue Fever of the most malignant type. We hear, from both the Cam and the Isis, that the presidents of the respective University Boat Clubs are about to test the merits of certain provisional crews. Lent Term this year will be a short one, as Easter falls on the 28th March, and the race is usually rowed on Saturday before Passion Week. The choice of men, therefore, must be made speedily, so that they may go into training in good time. Thus, in about a month, we shall all be uncommonly learned as to grip, catch, backeting, sliding seats, and the other technicalities of rowing. Of course those will criticise the crews most severely whose knowledge of aquatic matters is the least.

Bro. R. Soutar, of the Gaiety Theatre, is rapidly recovering from his late severe accident.

Preparations for the Arctic expedition are being rapidly pushed forward. Commander Markham has recently been in Dundee, for the purpose of selecting six men to act as ice-masters. We are glad the Government has recognised the necessity, in the interests of science, of prosecuting further Arctic exploration. It would never do for England to be surpassed in researches of this kind by any other nation.

Cabbies, as a rule, are a much abused class, oftentimes more sinned against than sinning. We rejoice therefore "muchly" to know that a scheme has been started for the purpose of providing covered stalls or sheds at all the Metropolitan Cab stands. The proposal originated, we believe, with our contemporary the *Globe*, and has been cordially endorsed by *Land and Water*. The plan is certainly a good one. Cabby will have a place of his own, where he may thoroughly enjoy his cup of coffee or fragrant Bohea, read the daily papers, and generally make himself at home, instead of being driven to seek shelter from the elements in the neighbouring public house. We hope the proposal, which has our best wishes for its success, will meet with a cordial support from the public.

The second Annual Ball of the Red Cross Order will be held at Willis's Rooms, St. James's, on Wednesday, 31st March next. Bro. Colonel Francis Burdett, G.V., has consented to act as president; Bro. Robert Wentworth Little as treasurer, and Bros. H. A. Dubois and C. Hogard have consented to act as Secretaries of the Ball Committee, which already numbers nearly 50 members. It is anticipated that a large number of the members of the Order will be present.

It behoves the English Government to watch the proceedings of the newly established *régime* in Spain with the utmost circumspection. Already we hear that journals which are not favourable to the new order of things are being suppressed, and that a Protestant church is said to have been closed. If it be true, as regards the latter rumour, that priestly influence, even at this early period, has made itself felt in the councils of the new sovereign, there is little hope, we fear, that Spain will derive much material benefit from her latest political arrangements. It is further reported that the German Empire will delay recognition of Alphonso XII. till assurances have been received that the Protestant church in question is re-opened for public worship. This course of Prince Bismarck is highly to be commended, and we trust our own Government may find courage enough to follow in his footsteps. Meantime, it is a home question with us:—How fares it with Masonry? The stability of Spanish Freemasonry has never been very well assured, and if priestly rule is to be the order of the day, we greatly fear the interests of the Craft will be imperilled.

The Surrey Masonic Hall at Camberwell is rapidly approaching completion. This undertaking not only deserves the support of brethren who reside in the south district, but also that of the metropolitan brethren, who can independently meet and pursue their Masonic duties. Bro. J. Clarke, of Buckingham Street, Strand, is the architect, and under his supervision it promises to be a great success.

According to *Debrett*, the newly installed M.W. Grand Master of Free and Accepted Masons in Ireland, His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, K.G., was born 21st January 1811, and succeeded his grandfather, the first Marquis and 9th Earl of Abercorn, in January 1818. His Grace was educated at Christ Church, Oxford, and was created LL.D. of Cambridge 1847, D.C.L. of Oxford 1856, and LL.D. of Dublin in 1868. He was Groom of the Stole to the late Prince Consort 1846-59, and Lord Lieutenant of Ireland under the Conservative Administration 1866-8; he is Lord Lieutenant of the Co. Donegal, a Major-Gen. of the Royal Archers (the Queen's Body Guard of Scotland), and a Captain of the London Scottish Volunteers. He now holds the Viceroyship of Ireland for the second time. As stated by His Grace at the recent ceremony of Installation, his connection with Freemasonry has already extended over more than forty years. He married, in 1832, the Lady Louisa Jane Russell, second daughter of the 6th Duke of Bedford, by whom he has issue several sons and daughters, the eldest, and heir apparent to the title being, James, Marquess of Hamilton, b. 1838, and M.P. for Co. Donegal, since 1860.

An earnest appeal is being made to the brethren throughout England, with a view to aiding Rev. Bro. Churchill Prov. Grand Chaplain of Hants and Isle of Wight, in the restoration and improvement of his church; the foundation stone of the chancel having been recently laid in due form by Br. W. W. B. Beach, Esq., M.P., Provincial Grand Master. Rev. Bro. Churchill having expended all that he can personally afford, a letter has been addressed to the Worshipful Masters of the several Lodges in Eng-

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land, urging them to request subscriptions from the members of their Lodges. The parish contains over 20,000 people, chiefly sailors in H.M.'s Navy and Dockyard labourers, and as the appeal is strongly recommended by Bro. Beach and other influential brethren in the neighbourhood and elsewhere, we cannot doubt it will meet with a hearty response from the members of the Craft.

The question of the appointment of collectors of taxes is one that we may expect to see taken up during the ensuing Session. The ball has been set rolling by a Mr. Barclay, of Mosely, near Birmingham, who, being appointed collector of taxes, and refusing to fulfil the duties, has been called upon to pay a fine of £10 for contumacy, and is held to be responsible for any defalcations which his substitute may be guilty of. It seems to be a most arbitrary law which compels a man to accept a post which cannot fail to be repulsive to the feelings, and seriously obstructive to the pursuits of one engaged in any profession or business. Still more unreasonable is it that, having paid a fine for the introduction of a substitute, the man should be held responsible for his deputy's defalcations—and within our recollection defaulting collectors are a stern reality. Mr. Barclay has secured the sympathy of no less a personage than Mr. John Bright, whose influence may possibly be of some little service.

Bro. John Baum retires, in March next, from the management of the Royal Alhambra Palace.

The coal supply of this country, is a matter, not merely of individual interest, but of national importance. Should England be drained of coal, a collapse of our national wealth must naturally follow; inasmuch as the iron-trade, which so much depends for its prosperity on our coal supply, would be materially affected. Of late years calculations regarding the future coal supply, have assumed a tone the reverse of assuring. When Mr. Gladstone, as Chancellor of the Exchequer, foretold its speedy exhaustion, we felt uncomfortable, to say the least, and entertained some idea that the price of coal, which had recently risen to so high a rate, might have some connection with so unfortunate a prospect. Of late we have heard of new coal-fields in various parts of the country, and our hopes rise considerably when we read the account of the recent borings near Longton, where the Duke of Sutherland owns a great deal of land. After boring to the depth of 243 yards, a seam of coal was discovered 13 feet in thickness. Other seams have been found in the neighbourhood, and it is supposed that an area of 500 or 600 acres is available for the production of the "black diamond." Again in Sussex, where experiments have of late been made, with a view to the discovery of coal; it is supposed that a field exists which is connected with those of France and Belgium. These prospects are certainly re-assuring.

The continued support and good will which are accorded to Prince Alfonso, are the most reliable evidence of the success of his *pronunciamiento*. No phase of the Spanish question has assumed so universally satisfactory an aspect. A *coup d'état* might be expected to create enthusiasm, and unite varied interests for a time, but we find no mere passing acceptance of the new *régime*. The reception of Alfonso is marvellously cordial, and as apparently sincere. He has not shunned localities where an opposition to his claim might most likely have been anticipated. Barcelona, pre-eminently Republican, has accorded him a reception which is described by the *Gazette* of Madrid, as one of "indescribable enthusiasm." On the 13th inst. we hear of him at Valencia, *en route* for Madrid, which city he reached the day following; popular demonstration accompanying him throughout the whole of his progress.

The mode of disposing of the dead has lately become a topic of no little importance, and must, sooner or later, be considered with a view to sanitary reform. The present method of burial, however it may have become endeared to us by custom and association, must be changed before long. The idea of "cremation," started by Sir Henry Thompson, as a remedy for the evils complained of, encounters much prejudice. With more than a probable chance of success, however, can we regard the views of Mr. F. Seymour Haden, a medical gentleman of some eminence, which he promulgated in his letter to the *Times*, on Tuesday last, under the heading of "Earth to Earth." Distinctly opposed in his views to the advocates of cremation, he argues in favour of burying the dead "properly," whereby he means that the dead should have a chance of early resolution by speedy contact with the earth. He strongly condemns the system of putting bodies into "hermetically sealed coffins." The poisonous effects of decomposing matter would be neutralised by the earth, could it only reach the body. He suggests that coffins should be constructed of the thinnest material, by which means the course of resolution would not be long impeded. Amongst other materials he suggests wicker-work coffins, open at the top, and "filled in with fragrant herbaceous matters." Such a covering, he contends, would protect the body from the immediate pressure of the earth, just as effectually as the stoutest oak would do. There is nothing, at all events, repulsive in this suggestion.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All Letters and communications must be addressed to the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, *67 Barbican, London, E.C.*

E. M. H.—Your letter to hand. We will explain the apparent inaccuracy next week.

W. C. H.—We cannot open our columns to appeals on behalf of individual candidates for election to any of the Royal Masonic Institutions. Such a course would be an act of partisanship on our side, and would necessarily give rise to feelings of jealousy on the part of the other candidates.

We shall be obliged if Secretaries of Lodges will make their notices of meetings as concise as possible, bearing in mind that the space at our disposal is, after all, but limited. We shall be further obliged if such notices are sent as soon as possible after the meetings are held. Those relating to Thursday gatherings will be inserted if they reach us by the first post on Friday morning.

INQUIRER.—The question you raise is scarcely a fitting one for discussion in our columns.

CORRESPONDENCE.

All Letters must bear the name and address of the Writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.

A FREEMASONS' LIFEBOAT.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—For the information of "A Master Mason," whose letter on the above subject appeared in your last issue, and those whose interest in the matter is sufficiently strong to create a desire for enlightenment upon the point, I have to state that a Freemasons' Lifeboat has been stationed, for the last three years, at North Berwick, on the borders of Scotland. The funds for this boat were subscribed by the Fraternity, and, upon the motion of the late Bro. R. J. Stebbing, P.G.D. England (who also christened the boat), Grand Lodge granted a sum of £52 10s. The boat possesses the special characteristics "A Master Mason" desires to see. Its name is "The Freemason," and the emblems of the Craft figure as conspicuously on the gunwale as gold leaf, oil colour and varnish can make them. The money was collected, and the purchase effected three years since, and unless "A Master Mason" is quite in his noviciate, he must have been singularly oblivious of events which were, comparatively, recently well known to every member of the Order. I may also take this opportunity to inform him that, after the boat had been purchased, upwards of £22 remained in the hands of the treasurer, Bro. Solomon Davis, Lodge 141, and 230 Whitechapel-road, which sum he proposed should form the nucleus of an Endowment Fund. Whether such has been done, or how far Bro. Davis has succeeded in the laudable attempt, I am unable to say, my duties as Honorary Secretary having ceased upon the boat being stationed. Yours fraternally,

E. GOTTHEIL, P.M., P.Z.,
Hon. Sec. to the late Committee of the Freemasons' Lifeboat Association.

WHAT THE WORLD THINKS OF US.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR and BROTHER,—At this time of the year, when the Brotherhood glories in its banquets and festivities, we may perhaps be inclined to listen to what the world thinks of Freemasonry, and what the "*profanes*" say of its members.

As to the Institution; its great principles—brotherly love, relief and truth—evidently speak for themselves, and by its extraneous

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actions it may safely be assumed that the Order will always be in a position to silence a great many of its detractors.

But what about its members? Do they one and all stoutly enforce upon the world the belief that *social*, *moral* and perhaps also *religious* advantages are to be derived from Masonry, that, *a priori*, a Mason must be considered a "good man" in the truest sense of the word, and that to the generic definition of good character he adds the necessary adjunct of good morals, and also, as much as possible, that refinement of manners which is, in a very great degree, the best test of both.

As one of the Fraternity, I ought not, perhaps, to put these questions, lest I should find some serious difficulties in the way of giving them a most affirmative answer. But if it is difficult to so praise and appreciate the merits and value of each individual member of the Craft, is it not, for this simple reason, imperatively incumbent upon each and every Lodge, and much more so upon the "Higher Orders," that they should always contrive to have at their head, not simply their *blameless* members, but also the *most deserving* among them, both *socially* and *intellectually*; men of *honour* and *virtue*, possessed of those qualities that *unmistakably distinguish the "gentle" from the "ungentleman."*

We know that the rule of the Order is such that it enjoins almost imperatively on every member the obligation of cultivating his intellect and polishing his manners, to the best of his ability. But we also know that to fulfil such an obligation is not a thing within the attainment of every man, however inclined or resolute he may sometime be to undertake the task.

Hence, a man may be a good ordinary Mason in his sphere, even perhaps capable of being of some credit to the Brotherhood, in a *humble position*, and yet be *totally unfit to fill the chair*, and preside over his brethren in the conspicuous and most honourable office of "*Master*," "*Preceptor*," or "*Most Wise Sovereign*." For it may justly be said of the latter, what is also said of princes and monarchs, the higher their offices the more conspicuous their shortcomings or abilities, their virtues or their vices.

Certainly every Mason is, in the eyes of the Great Architect of the Universe, upon the same level of equality. Yet, no reason of seniority, indeed no private influence should ever bear upon the Election of the Master of a Lodge, and far less that of the Heads of the "Higher Orders," who must be above all, and in all cases, morally, socially and intellectually, not only competent and capable of doing the work of the office, but also in a position to reflect honour on the Fraternity, both inside and outside the Lodge, Chapter, or Preceptory.

The Heir to the Throne is now at the Head of the Fraternity, and, unlike most of his predecessors in Office, he is also Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master of Knights Templar, and Patron and Member of the Ancient and Accepted Rite. Does not this fact convey in itself an idea of what and who should be, throughout the country, elected as his coadjutors and representatives in the various Lodges, Chapters, and Preceptories, placed under His Royal Highness's patronage and direction?

I trust the brethren will receive the above remarks in the same spirit in which they are written. Yours, &c. PAST MASTER.

Plymouth, January 1875.

MASONIC HONOUR AT FUNERALS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—An old P.M., a correspondent of mine, established in a colony which has not yet attained to the dignity of a District Grand Lodge, writes to me as follows:—

"On the death of our worthy Bro.——, the members of my Lodge wished to bury him with Masonic honours, and consulted me upon the propriety of doing so. I was obliged to reply that I considered it contrary to the "Constitutions," and I fear my opinion has been thought childish by some of the younger brethren. It does seem hard that, there being no District Grand Master here to grant a dispensation, and our distance from Grand Lodge rendering it quite impossible to obtain one from head quarters, we should be debarred from making so laudable and appropriate a demonstration when occasion requires. As the brethren put it to me:—'Supposing that our actual W.M. should die in office, having expressed a wish to be honoured with a Masonic funeral, what are we to do?'"

The addendum to the present Book of Constitutions is certainly clear, and shows that my correspondent was right in setting up his veto; but, as I concur with him in thinking the case a hard one, I beg permission to agitate the question in your estimable columns, which I hope soon to see recognised as the general organ for Masonic culture and intelligence in our colonies and in their motherland.

Yours fraternally, YPSILON.

[There are no actual grounds for agitating this question. The solution is to be found if the Lodges of the place will join in a memorial to the M.W. Grand Master, setting forth their reasonable desires, together with such facts as they can adduce in support of the same, and praying for a dispensation from his authority for all such purposes. Of course, reasonable cause must be shown, and the Lodges must undertake to comply with the proper formalities, such as regular records on the minutes, reports to the Grand Secretary, &c. &c.—EDITOR FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.]

MONEY MARKET AND CITY NEWS.

FRIDAY.

We have entered upon another favourable turn in the financial current this week, the Bank of England having reduced its rate of discount to 4 per cent., being 1 per cent. lower than last week. The present attitude of the money market is therefore presumably stronger than it has been for some time, and we may perhaps look forward, under other encouraging auspices, for a still lower figure in the official *bulletin* from the chief establishment. The usual fortnightly adjustment of accounts was completed yesterday, and there has been nothing to obstruct the satisfactory settlement of the various transactions. In view of the present abundance of money, it is expected that several new loans will be brought forward shortly, and, amongst others, we hear of a large loan, £5,000,000, for Brazil. Messrs. Rothschild are to have charge of the financial arrangements, and, as this Government has always adhered honestly to its engagements, there can be little doubt the public will subscribe liberally. The issue will be in 5 per cent stock. In a previous number we ventured on a few remarks touching the method of arriving at a proper conclusion respecting certain investments. Let us now proceed to point out, in the interests of our readers, the best way of comparing the credit of Governments and the prices of their loans; which seems to be more particularly applicable just now, when rumours of loans are rife in all directions. The surest means we can employ to accurately compare loans of all descriptions and shades with one another, is by reducing the several terms and conditions involved to one uniform set of considerations—just as, in fact, in the comparison of vulgar fractions. We have first to find a common denominator before we are able to state which of two fractions is the larger or the smaller. In the case of loans, the object to be primarily reached is to be in a position to answer three questions (1) What is the actual (not nominal) amount of the money lent? (2) In what term of years is it repayable? (3) What is the rate of interest paid on this actual amount? It is obvious that when these three questions are answered with respect to all loans (with or without sinking funds), the process of obtaining the relative cheapness or dearness of several stocks is rendered quite simple. Having the due rate of interest yielded, and the currency of the loan, and knowing that its redemption is to be effected at par, we have every means in our hands for arriving at accurate conclusions, and it is by such a process alone that we can overcome the obstacles which present themselves when we attempt to contrast loans carrying sinking funds standing at different prices, and consequently yielding different bonuses on redemption. The practical utility of the observations we have made, and their applicability to other questions affecting investors, we hope occasionally to illustrate still further.

The Funds remain without change, and are quoted 92½ to 92⅝ for money and 92⅝ to 92¾ for the account.

After a heavy settlement it usually happens that business remains quiet for a time, and the present is no exception to the rule. Foreign Stocks therefore present very little movement, and the consideration of the coming loans is chiefly occupying attention.

The English Railway market shows a strong front. Midland have been in request on the strength of the statement that the new working arrangements gave every assurance, and that the policy adopted was likely to prove highly conducive to the interests of the company. South Eastern and Brighton have also benefitted by the publication of satisfactory announcements respecting their dividends, which are found to be 6½ in each case.

According to the annual tax returns, the taste for "cards" shows no sign of abatement; on the contrary, last financial year the three-penny stamp duty on every pack of playing cards was paid on 1,020,956 packs. Thus, the yield to the revenue from this source alone was £12,761. Seven years ago, the number of packs on which duty was paid was only 743,350.

Mr. J. R. Scott, the registrar of the London coal market, has published the following statistics of imports and exports of coal into and from the port and district of London, by railway and canal, during the year 1874:—London and North Western, 962,533 tons; Great Northern, 872,646; Great Western, 555,225; Midland, 1,587,301; Great Eastern, 663,015; South Western, 30,572; London, Chatham and Dover, 5,714; South Eastern, 12,776; London, Brighton and South Coast, 2; Grand Junction Canal, 5,982; total, 4,695,769. Imports during the year 1873, 5,158,608. Decrease on the year 462,839.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

The following statement shows the receipts for traffic on the undermentioned railways for the past week, as compared with the corresponding week in 1874:—

Railway.	Miles open. 1875	Miles open. 1874	Receipts. 187 £	Receipts. 1874 £
Caledonian	737	731	46,795	46,693
Glasgow and South Western	315	315	15,451	16,036
Great Eastern	763	762	40,517	40,465
Great Northern	515	513	51,035	48,944
Great Western	1,525	1,502	91,492	95,973
Lancashire and Yorkshire	430	428	59,068	57,427
London and Brighton	376	376	25,258	24,188
London, Chatham and Dover	153	138	14,526	13,533
London and North Western	1,582	1,575	149,880	139,661
London, Tilbury and Southend	42	42	1,305	1,244
Manchester and Sheffield	258	258	28,270	28,021
Midland	944	883	95,698	91,201
Metropolitan	7½	7½	8,935	8,762
" " District	8	6¾	5,185	4,354
" " St. John's Wood	1¾	1¾	—	—
North British	839	820	39,387	36,451
North Eastern	1,378	1,378	94,418	98,028
North London	12	12	6,423	6,535
North Staffordshire Railway	185	185	8,421	9,223
" " Canal	118	118	1,030*	1,510
South Eastern	350	347	27,149	27,884

* Impeded by ice.

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DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be greatly obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the kingdom would favour us with a copy of their summonses each time of issue.

SATURDAY, 16th JANUARY.

206—Prince George, Bottoms, Eastwood, Yorks.
715—Panmure, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
1329—Sphinx, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark.
1364—Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Hackney.
1385—Gladsmuir, Barnet, Lodge of Emergency.

MONDAY, 18th JANUARY.

Quarterly Meeting, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 12.0.
1—Grand Masters', Freemasons' Hall.
21—Emulation, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
58—Felicity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
61—Probity, Freemasons' Hall, Halifax.
185—Tranquility, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
264—Nelson of the Nile, Freemasons' Hall, Batley.
302—Hope, Masonic Hall, Bradford.
307—Prince Frederick, White Horse Hotel, Hebden Bridge.
408—Three Graces, Haworth, Yorks.
720—Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham.
862—Whittington, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
901—City of London, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.
907—Royal Albert, Freemasons' Hall.
1201—Eclectic, Freemasons' Hall.
1514—Thornhill, Masonic Room, Dearn House, Lindley, Yorks.
R. A. 12—Prudence, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street.
R. A. 139—Paradise, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
R. A. 827—St. John's, Masonic Temple, Dewsbury.

TUESDAY, 19th JANUARY.

Board of General Purposes, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.
30—United Mariners, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham Street.
73—Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark.
95—Eastern Star, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street.
162—Cadogan, Freemasons' Hall.
165—Honour and Generosity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate Street.
194—St. Paul's, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon Street.
373—Socrates, George Hotel, Huntingdon.
435—Salisbury, Freemasons' Hall.
704—Camden, Bull and Gate Tavern, Kentish Town.
857—St. Mark's, Half Moon Tavern, Herne Hill
1214—Scarborough, Station Hotel, Southhill, Batley.
1441—Ivy, Windsor Castle Tavern, 199 Southwark Bridge Road.
R. A. 19—Mount Sinai, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street.
R. A. 186—Industry, Freemasons' Hall.

WEDNESDAY, 20th JANUARY.

General Committee Grand Chap., at 3.
Lodge of Benevolence, at 6.
Grand Stewards Lodge, Freemasons' Hall.
190—St. George's, Trafalgar Hotel, Greenwich.
174—Sincerity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham Street.
180—Oak, Freemasons' Hall
258—Amphibious, Guildhall, Heckmondwike.
360—Integrity, Commercial Temple, Morley, Yorks.
387—Airedale, Masonic Hall, Shipley, Yorks.
619—Beadon, Greyhound Tavern, Dulwich.
700—Nelson, Masonic Hall, William Street, Woolwich.
910—St. Oswald, Masonic Hall, Pontefract.
969—Maybury, Freemasons' Hall.
1019—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Wakefield.
1044—Wandsworth, Spread Eagle Hotel, Wandsworth.
1301—Brighouse, Masonic Rooms, Brighouse, Yorks.
1349—Friars, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars.
1392—Corinthian, George Inn, Glengall Road, Isle of Dogs.
1479—Halsey, Town Hall, St. Albans.
R. A. 10—Westminster and Keystone, Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 192—Lion and Lamb, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon Street.
R. A. 217—Stability, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street.
R. A. 1305—St. Marylebone, British Stores, New Street, St. John's Wood.

THURSDAY, 21st JANUARY.

House Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
23—Globe, Freemasons' Hall.
55—Constitutional, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon Street.
63—St. Mary's, Freemasons' Hall.
169—Temperance, White Swan, High Street, Deptford.
179—Manchester, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street.
181—Universal, Freemasons' Hall.
208—Three Grand Principles, Masonic Hall, Dewsbury.
275—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield.
337—Candour, Commercial Inn, Uppermill, Yorks.
439—Scientific, Bingley, Yorks.
800—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Bradford.
813—New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton.
1042—Excelsior, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
1125—St. Peter's, Freemasons' Hall, Tiverton, Devon.
1139—South Norwood, South Norwood Hall, South Norwood.
1278—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Approach Road, Victoria Park.
1287—Great Northern, King's Cross.
1365—Clapton, White Hart Hotel, Clapton.
1421—Langthorne, Swan Hotel, Stratford, Essex.
1507—Metropolitan, Metropolitan Club, 269 Pentonville Road.
R. A. 5—St. George's, Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 733—Westbourne, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood.
R. A. 834—Andrew, Clarendon Hotel, Hammersmith.

FRIDAY, 22nd JANUARY.

House Committee, Boys' School, at 4.
197—Jerusalem, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street.
401—Royal Forest, Hark-to-Bounty Inn, Shadburn, Yorks.
569—Fitz-Roy, Head Quarters, Hon. Artillery Company, London.
672—Holme Valley, Victoria Hotel, Holmfirth.
[illegible]—Ecclesfield, Freemasons' Hall, Ecclesfield, Yorks.
[illegible]—Mirfield, Assembly Room, Eastthorpe, Mirfield, Yorks.
K. T. Precep—De Furnival, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey Street, Sheffield.

SATURDAY, 23rd JANUARY.

Audit Committee, Boys' School, at 3.
149—Peace, Masonic Rooms, Meltham.
1297—West Kent, Forest Hill Hotel, Forest Hill, Lewisham.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY.—41.—St. Luke, Freemasons' Hall.
TUESDAY.—36.—St. David, Ship Hotel, 6 Register Street.
„ 405.—Rifle, Freemasons' Hall.
WEDNESDAY.—160.—Roman Eagle, Imax Hotel, 62 Nicholson Street.
THURSDAY.—48.—St. Andrew, Freemasons Hall.
„ 228.—Portobello, Royal Hotel, Bath Street.
„ R. A. 152.—Perseverance, Lodge Rosa, 86 Constitution Street.
FRIDAY.—R. A. 81.—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Royal Shamrock Lodge, No. 32, Waterford.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, 7th instant. Bro. John Sunderland W.M. in the chair, assisted by Bros. Thomas Andrews S.W., Thomas Atherton J.W., Alexander Nelson Treasurer, S. H. Perry Secretary. Past Masters Bros. Thomas Slater, Robert Whalley, Peter Whalley, J. Banks and H. Waugh. Bro. Thomas Atherton was duly installed W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony being performed by Bro. Thomas Sleator, P.G.S., after his usual able and impressive manner. Bro. Thomas Andrew was installed S.W.; Bro. S. H. Perry J.W.; Bro. Rev. J. De Renzy Chaplain; Bro. Alexander Nelson S.D.; Bro. E. G. Brooks J.D.; Bro. Thomas Trigge I.G.; after which the Lodge was closed, and the brethren were entertained at a most sumptuous banquet, parting at a late hour, after having spent a very enjoyable evening.

Vitruvian Lodge, No. 87.—A meeting of this Lodge was held at the White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, on Wednesday the 13th inst. The W.M., Bro. C. S. Jolly in the chair, E. Thurkle S.W., C. Walters J.W., J. G. Bond P.M. Treasurer, H. Mallet Secretary, H. T. T. Ross S.D., A. Timothy J.D., C. Nott I.G. Several P.M.'s and about 40 other brethren were present. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The Lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bros. Huff and A. Goulty, having answered the usual questions, were intrusted, and retired. The Lodge was opened in the third degree, and Bros. Huff and A. Goulty were duly raised to the sublime degree of M.M.'s The Lodge was resumed to the first degree, and Bros. W. Hallam, B. Hallam, F. Goulty, and Pearmine were intrusted, and retired. The Lodge was resumed to the second degree, and Bros. W. Hallam, B. Hallam, F. Goulty, and Pearmine were passed to the degree of F.C.'s. The Lodge was resumed to the first degree, and a ballot taken for Messrs. T. Goodman, H. H. Tupper, and F. Beard, which was unanimous in their favour, and they were accordingly initiated into ancient Freemasonry. The Lodge was then closed in perfect harmony, and the brethren afterwards adjourned to a banquet. Bro. Hunt, Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 34, enjoying the hospitality of the Lodge.

Lodge of Prudent Brethren, No. 145.—An emergency meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday last, at the Freemasons' Hall. Bros. T. Bull W.M., Leggot as S.W., E. H. Thiellay J.W., J. Boyd (P.M., P.G.P.) Treasurer, Moult S.D., Haslett S.D., Haslett J.D., Hughes I.G., J. Last I.P.M., and Torry. Masters Chimney, Owen, Sawyer, Kinnard, Frost, Daw, Talbot, Cherer, &c. The Lodge was opened, and Messrs. F. H. Hayes, Taylor, Brooks and Wright were initiated. Bro. August Boetch, Albemarle Hotel, was raised to the sublime degree. Bro. Bull, the W.M., working the degrees in his usual impressive manner. The Lodge was then closed. The installation meeting will take place on the 26th inst.

All Souls Lodge, No. 170, Weymouth.—Bro. P. Hooper, solicitor, has been installed W.M. for the ensuing year. The annual banquet took place at the Masonic Hall, on the 8th inst., and was numerously attended.

Caveac Lodge, No. 176.—The above Lodge met at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, on Saturday, the 9th inst. Bros. Nairne W.M., Leeman I.P.M., S. W. Sorrel J.W., P. Browne (P.M.) Treasurer, E. Leitchfield (P.M.) Secretary, Goss S.D., Stride J.D., J. B. Sorrell, jun. I.G., C. Brown (P.M.) D.C., &c. The Lodge having been opened, one brother was raised to the third degree. There being no other business, the lectures on the tracing boards in the second and third degrees were given. Bro. G. K. Leitchfield I.P.M., signified his intention to act as Steward at the forthcoming anniversary festival for the Boys' School, on Wednesday the 30th June. The sum of £10 10s was voted from the Charity Fund to be placed on his list. The usual banquet followed, which was provided by Bro. W. G. Jennings, and gave great satisfaction. The usual routine toast followed. Bro. F. Walters P.M., 73, &c., P.G.P. for Middlesex, responded to the toast of the visitors.

Domatic Lodge, No. 177.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Friday, the 8th inst., in the presence of a numerous assemblage of brethren and visitors, Bro. F. Kent C.C, W.M., occupying the chair. Bros. Everett S.W., Treadwell J.W., J. Smith P.M. and P.G.D., Treasurer, J. Willing jun., Secretary, and P.M.'s Bros. Fergusson, W. F. Smith, G. Time, Elmes, J. R. Foulger, Fergusson and Walford. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of the former meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. then raised Bros. E. W. Kent, and J. Tribe, and passed Bros. Parker, Bede, Serjeant, Bensly, Holder, Isenstein and Harris to the 2nd degree. Bros. John Ambrose and G. B. Physic were unanimously elected joining members. Messrs. Herbage, Gibson, Marriott and Turner were initiated into the Order. A board of installed Masters was then formed, and Bro. Everett S.W. and W.M. elect was presented by Bro. J. Smith (P.M.) P.G.P., and was duly installed by Bro. Jas. Brett (P.M.) P.G.P. The newly installed W.M. then invested his officers as follows, viz.—Bros. F. Kent (C.C.) I.P.M., A. Tredwell S.W., J. Willing J.W., J. Smith P.M., treasurer. The announcement of Bro. Smith having been re-elected was received with great enthusiasm. Bros. Williams, secretary; W. Palmer S.D., J. Buscall J.D., G. Clark I.G., White D.C., Spink, Assistant Secretary, Daly, Tyler. The investing of the officers seemed to give great satisfaction. The addresses, given by Bro. Brett P.M., were listened to with breathless attention, and well merited the expressions of satisfaction evinced. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren,

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100 in number, sat down to a sumptuous banquet, provided by Bro. Clemow. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given. Bro. Kent I.P.M. then rose and proposed the toast of the W.M. He was not only a good Mason, but he was one who would carry out those duties required of him, he was sure, to their satisfaction. The toast of the newly initiated was given and responded to. The W.M. then said he had to propose the toast of the evening, and that was the Past Masters, for they did not get that as a heritage, but they had obtained it by hard work, and if he did not know his duties, they were always able and willing to assist him. He would pay a proper compliment to one who had occupied the chair during the past year, not only with great credit to himself, but with satisfaction to the brethren. He had been a member of the Lodge for sixteen years, and those whom he had introduced were gentlemen whom they were proud to meet, and he had great pleasure in placing on his breast a jewel, presented to him by the brethren for his able working and government of the Lodge during his year of office. Bro. Kent returned thanks for the valuable gift, and stated how gratified he was to meet the brethren, and also the Past Masters; his only ambition was to emulate them. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the Treasurer, Bro. J. Smith P.M., and Secretary, and Bro. J. Willing. The former brother had occupied that post for thirty-six years. He also mentioned the name of Bro. J. Willing, the newly elected Junior Warder, who had formerly been the Hon. Secretary. Bro. J. Smith P.M. and Treasurer, and Bro. J. Willing, responded. The health of the officers followed, and the Tyler's toast concluded a very agreeable evening, which was enlivened by the excellent singing of Bros. Palmer, Harris, Hancock and Ambrose. The visitors were Bros. Harran, Stone 1298, Laing P.M. 1336, Hulbert 463, Tilley 720, F. Croaker 185, Black 144, and H. M. Levy P.M. 188.

Bank of England Lodge, No. 262.—This fine old Lodge celebrated the installation of its W.M., Bro. Miceli, at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate Street, on Thursday evening last. Amongst the visitors who honoured the gathering with their presence on the occasion, was R.W. Bro. Colonel Burdett, Prov. G.M. Middlesex, who made a feeling reply to one of the toasts. In these days of photography, when appropriate Lodge Albums are in such request, visitors would do well to notice the splendid Album which enshrines the portraits of the Past Masters of this Lodge. A ponderous folio which a stout porter could hardly carry, whose binding is a miracle of art, and the portraits in which are executed in the finest miniature stippling. It was started nearly forty years ago by subscription, and its series is still continued yearly.

Drogheda Lodge, No. 411, Ireland.—St. John's Day Festival was celebrated on the 28th ult. The Lodge assembled at 5 o'clock, and was opened in form. In the absence of the Master, Bro. Clarke (P.M.) H.K.T., and Secretary of the Lodge, opened it, and immediately installed Bro. Jeffers as W.M. for the ensuing year. Forthwith the new Master proceeded to instal the following officers: Bros. J. L. Whitty S.W., Flinn J.W., Glenny S.D., Griffin J.D., and McCausland I.G. Two gentlemen were then initiated. A notice from Grand Lodge was read, announcing that the 6th January had been appointed for the formal installation of his Grace the Duke of Abercorn as Most Worshipful Grand Master of Ireland. The Lodge shortly after was closed for labour, and at about quarter past seven the brethren sat down to refreshment. Dinner was served in handsome style, and the usual Masonic toasts were duly honoured. About 12 o'clock the brethren separated, in peace, love and harmony. It may be remarked that this Lodge was instituted so long back as the year 1760, and although the warrant was given up for a very few years, a new warrant, bearing same number (411), was granted in 1844, thus reviving the same old Lodge of the year 1760.

Faith and Unanimity Lodge, No. 417, Dorchester.—The monthly Lodge was held on Wednesday, 6th inst., when the re-elected W.M., Bro. W. P. Cockeran, was re-invested and proclaimed in due form. He appointed the following officers:—W. Osmond S.W., W. H. Dean J.W., Alfred Atkins Secretary, W. How S.D., C. Shorts J.D., G. J. G. Gregory P.M. D.C., J. Robinson P.M. Org., J. D. Robinson I.G., T. Beviss and D. T. Edmonds Stewards. An initiation took place. W. Bro. J. M. P. Montague, Deputy Provincial Grand Master Dorset, was present, and remarked upon the good progress being made in the Province. Referring to the Charities, he mentioned that at the next Boys' Festival two Stewards from Dorset would carry up nearly £600, chiefly subscribed within the Province.

Royal Monmouth Lodge, No. 457.—The installation of Bro. Joseph Coates, as W.M. of this, the Senior Lodge of the Province, took place on Tuesday 5th January. The ceremony was ably and efficiently performed by Bro. Captain S. Geo. Homfray D.P.G.M. Mr. Hy. Paul Prosser, a "Lewis," son of Bro. Dr. Prosser, one of the oldest P.M.'s of the Lodge, was initiated by Bro. Bread P.M., and Bros. T. J. A. Williams (Town-clerk) and T. R. Oakley were passed to the second degree, after which the D.P.G.M. took the chair, and proceeded with the installation. The following officers were appointed by the W.M.:—Bros. T. R. Hyam I.P.M., John Thomas S.W., H. P. Tippins J.W., Rev. D. G. Davies Chap., Matthew Jones S.D., George Rowlands Roberts J.D., Wm. James P.M. Treasurer; W. B. Bread P.M. Sec., W. H. Price P.M., M.C., F. Horsey and T. J. A. Williams Stewards, P. W. George I.G., Tom Watkins Tyler. After the customary vote of thanks, the Lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet, at the King's Head Hotel. The cloth having been removed, the usual loyal and Craft toasts were proposed. The toast of "The Masonic Charities," very ably proposed by Bro. Homfray, elicited a practical response, in the shape of the handsome subscription of about 25 guineas. The proceedings were enlivened by some excellent songs by the D.P.G.M., whose rendering of the new comic song of "Look at the price of coal!" created quite a furore, as indeed did his celebrated "Marked with a Level and Square."

Silurian Lodge, No. 471, Newport.—The installation of Bro. Benjamin Lawrence, P.P.G. Sup. Wks., as W.M. of this Lodge, was held at the Masonic-hall, Dock-street, before a large gathering of the Craft, on Wednesday 6th January. The preliminary business having been disposed of, a splendid P.M.-Jewel was presented to Bro. H. J. Gratte P.M. as a slight recognition of the valuable services he had rendered to the Lodge. The presentation was made by Bro. Charles Rowe, the W.M., in a very appropriate speech, which was responded to by Bro. Gratte. The ceremony of the day was then proceeded with, the onerous duty being undertaken by Bro. Rowe, whose correct and impressive rendering of this beautiful part of the Masonic ritual called forth the warm approval and admiration of the brethren. The following is a list of the officers appointed by the newly-installed Master:—Bros. Charles Rowe P.G. Soc. I.P.M., C. R. Lyne P.G.S.B. S.W., Joseph Gibbs J.W., Rev. J. W. Osman Chap., W. Pickford P.G.T. Treasurer, R. B. Evans P.G.S.W. Secretary, J. Campbell S.D., C. H. Oliver jun. J.D., H. J. Groves P.G. Org. Organist, H. J. Gratte P.P.G.S.D. M.C., D.D. Thomas Librarian, G. Hoskins, C. P. Evans, Thomas Pugsley R. A. Rennie—Stewards, A McMahon I.G., H. Fletcher Tyler. A vote of thanks was given to the retiring W.M., Bro. Rowe, after which the Lodge was closed. The banquet took place at the Queen's Hotel, the very handsome and spacious billiard-room having been expressly cleared for the occasion. The new host and hostess (Bro. Matthews and Mrs. Matthews) deserve every encomium for the manner in which the repast was placed on the table. Amongst the floral and other decorations, which added materially to the general effect of the banquetting-room, we observed some splendid ferns and pot flowers, kindly lent by Bro. Colonel Lyne, P.G.M., and Bro. Earl, of Christchurch. The toast of the evening was given by Bro. Captain Homfray, who highly complimented the W.M. on his Masonic attainments, and zeal in working the Craft. The Chairman's response was not only able, but in excellent good taste. Bro. Pickford was earnest in pleading the claims of the Masonic Charities, the toast in honour of which (proposed by the D.P.G.M.), being responded to by him. The subscriptions amounted to about £35.

Friendship and Sincerity Lodge, No. 472, Shaftesbury.—Bro. Benett Stanford, M.P. for the borough, has been installed W.M. of this Lodge, and his officers are—New S.W., Mansfield J.W., Usher Secretary, Kite S.D., W. L. Chitty J.D., Gengo D.C., Wykes Org., C. T. Robins and R. H. Sawyer Stewards.

THE DRAMA.

Opera Bouffe—The undraped Drama—Whittington.

WE, on a former occasion, expressed in general terms our opinion with regard to the form of entertainment styled Opera Bouffe. We consider it stupid and frivolous in the last degree; but just as in the grand opera most divine music is often allied to commonplace words, so here the meaningless and halting phrases of a ninth-rate burlesque are not unfrequently interwoven with light, cheerful, and catching melodies. The humour of the words and story, where there is any at all, is of a character wholly foreign to English tastes, and it is singular to note how often the point of the original is missed, even by the literary cobbler who adapts the play, and the theatrical manager who produces it. When, for example, *The Grand Duchess* was first brought out at Covent Garden, the satire of the original, which was based on the smallness of the grand duchy and the extremely diminutive character of all its administration, was entirely spoilt by the introduction of an immense *corps* of auxiliaries representing the army and court attendants. Such a display may have been very grand, but it robbed the piece of half its general effect. The more recent *Fille de Madame Angot* furnishes even a better instance of this. The play, as originally produced, had a strong and tolerably comprehensible plot, the dialogue being partly spoken and partly sung. But the English adapters, with hardly a single exception, ignored the spoken dialogue, and based the English play solely upon the words accompanying the published music. The consequence of course is, that the English words fail to convey any idea of a plot, and are indeed almost without meaning at all.

A further reason for the popularity of Opera Bouffe, beside its novelty and the tuneful music, may be found in the adventitious aids of dress and dancing of a more or less piquant, if not indecent description. It is astonishing that English matrons can look with even tacit approval upon the exhibitions of semi-nudity and lascivious gesture which are so frequently to be seen at our West-end theatres. Such dances as the *Ripirelle* or the *Cancan*—such costumes as may be seen in almost any burlesque or opera bouffe now being performed, are a disgrace to our modern civilisation. Nor does the evil rest with the mere moral effect produced by the representation. A still worse consequence has been that decent and intelligent actresses have been driven to the provinces and into retirement, to make room for shameless creatures whose only attraction lies in their shapely limbs, their immodest looks, and their notoriously wanton lives. Actresses like Miss Hughes, Miss Foote, Miss Ada Dyas, and Mrs. Viner, whose talents are recognised by every playgoer, are frequently disengaged for months at the time, whilst the Totties and Sissies and Patties,—whose talents, such as they are, consist in a clean pair of heels—are to be found wherever we turn, in the enjoyment of the best parts, and, apparently, most lucrative situations.

There is nothing new to notice at the theatres, the burlesque of

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Whittington, at the Alhambra, being perhaps the greatest novelty. Here, Mr. H.B. Farnie, and the still popular Offenbach, have joined forces, and produced, what to all appearances, is destined to prove an immensely popular piece. The story of the London shop-boy who rose to be Lord Mayor of London, has always been a favourite with the writers of story books and pantomimes, and here the interesting narrative is supplemented by some very tuneful music, and some capital songs. Amongst the latter may be mentioned "The Bells of Bow," "the Haunted Kickaboo," the "Rat" song, and "A 'prentice bold am I." The play is moreover favoured with a very strong cast. Miss Julia Matthews, than whom no English actress is more suited for the lighter and better class of Opera Bouffe, sustains the part of Alice; Mr. Rouse plays fussily the part of Captain Bobstay, whilst Mr. Henry Paulton as the Sergeant of the Patrol, and Mr. Terrott as the Bellringer of Bow, help to complete the cast. The title *rôle* is of course alloted to Miss Kate Santley. Scene painter and costumier add to the general attractiveness of the entertainment.

We are indebted to the latest issue of *Who's Who* for the following interesting information relating to various members of the Aristocracy and others employed in the Public Service:—

The oldest member of Her Majesty's Privy Council is Lord St. Leonards, aged 94; the youngest, H. R. H. Prince Leopold, aged 22. The oldest Duke is the Duke of Montrose, aged 76; the youngest, the Duke of Norfolk, aged 28. The oldest Marquis is the Marquis of Tweeddale, aged 88; the youngest, the Marquis of Camden, aged 3. The oldest Earl is the Earl of Leven and Melville, aged 89; the youngest, the Earl of Norbury, aged 12. The oldest Viscount is the Viscount Molesworth, aged 89; the youngest, Viscount Clifden, aged 12. The oldest Baron is Lord St. Leonards, aged 94; the youngest, Lord Southampton, aged 8. The oldest of the titled Heirs of Peers is Viscount Kirkaldy, heir to the Earl of Leven and Melville, aged 58; the youngest are Viscount Crowhurst (heir to the Earl of Cottenham), Viscount Forbes (heir to the Earl of Granard), Viscount Kingsborough (heir to the Earl of Kingston), and Viscount Stavordale (heir to the Earl of Ilchester), each of whom are in their first year. The oldest member of the House of Commons is the Right Hon. Joseph Warner Henley, M.P. for Oxfordshire, aged 82; the youngest, the Hon. William F. O. O'Callaghan, M.P. for Tipperary, aged 23. The oldest Judge in England is the Right Hon. Sir Fitzroy Kelly, Lord Chief Baron of the Court of Exchequer, aged 79; the youngest, the Right Hon. Sir George Jessel, Master of the Rolls, aged 51. The oldest Judge in Ireland is the Right Hon. James H. Monahan, Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, aged 71; the youngest, the Right Hon. Christopher Palles, LL.D., Chief Baron of the Court of Exchequer, aged 44. The oldest Scotch Lord of Session is Charles Neaves, aged 75; the youngest, Lord Shand, aged 47. The oldest Prelate of the Church of England is the Bishop of Llandaff (Dr. Alfred Ollivant), aged 77; the youngest, Dr. Edward Parry, Suffragan Bishop of Dover, aged 45. The oldest Prelate of the Irish Church is Dr. John Gregg, Bishop of Cork, aged 77; the youngest, Dr. William Alexander, Bishop of Derry, aged 51. The oldest Bishop of the Colonial and Missionary Church is the Right Rev. Samuel Gobat, Bishop of Jerusalem, aged 76; the youngest, the Right Rev. Alfred Willis, Bishop of Hawaii, and the Right Rev. T. E. Wilkinson. Bishop of Zululand, each aged 39. The oldest Bishop of the Scotch Episcopal Church is the Right Rev. Robert Eden, Bishop of Moray and Ross, aged 71; the youngest, the Right Rev. Alexander P. Forbes, Bishop of Brechin, aged 58. The oldest of the retired Bishops is the Right Rev. Connop Thirlwall, late Bishop of St. Davids, aged 79; the youngest, the Right Rev. Edward Twells, late Bishop of Orange River, aged 47. The oldest Baronet is Sir Richard John Griffith, aged 91; the youngest, Sir Arthur Victor R. A. Rumbold, aged 6. The oldest Knight is General Sir John Bell, G.C.B., aged 93; the youngest, Sir Ludlow Cotter (eldest son of Sir James Laurence Cottor, Bart.), aged 22. The oldest Recorder in England is John Bramwell, Recorder of Durham, aged 81; the youngest, George E. Dering, Recorder of Faversham, aged 34.

The number of patents applied for during the year just passed was 4,492. This is the largest number on record, and is an increase of 195 on the previous year, 1873, in which there were, 4,294. This steady increase will not encourage those who are in favour of the abolition of the patent laws.

From a report, which has just been issued by the Minister of Finance in France, it appears that the total cost of the war of 1870 was £395,440,000.

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A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. I.—No. 4. SATURDAY, 23rd JANUARY 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

AN ENDOWMENT FUND FOR THE FREEMASONS' LIFEBOAT.

THE letter which we published in our second number, from the pen of "A Master Mason," has directed attention to the whole question involved in the maintenance of the boats of the National Lifeboat Association. "Master Mason's" ignorance of the fact that the Fraternity had already placed a boat upon an exposed station on the coast is scarcely excusable, but his suggestion, in a further letter, which our readers will find in another column, is so thoroughly practical, that we are prepared to go somewhat out of our way for the purpose of giving it a fair hearing. He ventures to remind his Masonic brethren that the cost of maintaining the boat presented by the Fraternity amounts to a considerable annual sum, and suggests the starting of an Endowment Fund for the purpose of relieving the Lifeboat Association from the burthen of its maintenance. Coincident with the receipt of this letter we have had a communication from the Secretary of the Association, whose attention had been called to the discussion in our columns, and he informs us that the annual cost of the Freemasons' Lifeboat is £70. He further adds that boats are always forthcoming, either for new stations, or for replacing old and worn-out craft, but what the Association greatly needs is cash to keep the great flotilla under its command in an efficient condition. We feel assured that words of such grave import as these, coming from such high authority, will at once arrest the attention of our brethren, and we shall be prepared to receive subscriptions towards the formation of an "Endowment Fund," for the purpose of making the Freemasons' Lifeboat free of the charitable donations of the general body of the public. Sums of money so received will be carefully acknowledged in our columns, and paid over, at stated intervals, to the account of the Association.

It would be idle indeed for us to say anything in reference to the importance of saving life at sea. The responsibility has been accepted as a sacred duty by the public, who, however, little realise the state of things which prevails on our coasts during a stormy winter. Mr. Plimsoll declared, the other day, that we are drowning our seamen at the rate of 5,000 a year, and this awful sacrifice of human life is in a great measure preventable. We do not desire, in these columns, to revive the painful discussion with which the name of the Hon. Member for Derby is associated. We are indeed of opinion that many of his statements were exaggerated, but, after making every allowance for the inaccuracies into which he was led, it must be apparent to every one of us that an undue proportion of the seamen employed in the coasting trade lose their lives in pursuance of their hazardous and noble calling. We should be the last to assert that owners knowingly send brave men to sea in rotten ships, indeed, this hypothesis is by no means necessary to account for the great increase in the number of naval casualties which have occurred of late years. The whole surface of the home seas is dotted with merchant vessels, engaged in the useful duty of conveying bulky articles of commerce to home and continental ports. Those who understand nautical matters do not need to be told that when a heavily laden collier brig is caught in a gale on a lee shore, she must run serious risk of touching the ground and going to pieces. Skill, seamanship, and the staunch qualities of the best of sea boats are often useless in a sudden and violent storm. The vessel drives upon the frowning coast, and, but for the ready services of the Lifeboat, a catastrophe of this kind would nearly always prove fatal to all on board. What those services are, we all know. The little publication issued by the Association is filled with stories of heroism, beside which the vaunted deeds of the soldier look mean and insignificant. We read the simple records of these services with a thrill at the heart, and we contemplate the hardy mariners contending against the mightiest forces of nature with admiration and awe. Sometimes the Lifeboat has to be dragged for miles over a rugged coast before it can be launched to succour the perishing seamen of some doomed ship. Oftentimes its hardy crew are compelled to pull for miles, dead to windward, in the teeth of a terrible gale, their only guide being the minute gun of the stranded bark, or the lurid glare of a distant rocket. The service, at the best of times, is dangerous, and involves exposure and hardship such as we, who live at home at ease, can scarcely realise. The drenching spray, in spite of the protection of waterproofs, wets the boatmen to the skin, and exposure for many hours at a time to an atmosphere below freezing point is trying to the most hardy frame. Yet all this is cheerfully endured by the gallant fellows for a pecuniary reward which, if it alone inspired their zeal, would be regarded as pitiful. No one knows better than the inhabitants of our fishing villages and coast towns that the sum gained is not the incentive which nerves the arms of the Lifeboat crew. They are as eager to save life as the most refined and cultivated amongst us, and, if money alone were the object of their desires, they would gain more by acting as salvors of cargo than as the saviours of human life.

We are assured that in thus bringing this noble service prominently before our readers we are performing a duty in perfect harmony with the principles which bind Freemasons together in the bonds of a sacred brotherhood. We are certain that our appeal for funds will not be made in vain, and we shall be proud to be the medium through which the charitable donations of the Order may pass to the coffers of the noble Association which so grandly upholds the Christian character of the people of these islands. The Endowment Fund, if we may venture to so style it, will be devoted especially to the maintenance of the Masonic Lifeboat, whose services we shall be glad to record from time to time for the gratification of our readers. We sincerely trust that the response of our readers to this appeal of ours will be no half-hearted one. We are now in the midst of the most stormy season of the year, and while a single seamen perishes in sight of these hospitable shores a heavy responsibility rests upon those whose comforts are so materially increased by that gallant and hardy race whose courage and enterprise have contributed to make England a Naval power compared with which the boasted glories of Tyre and Carthage look mean and trivial.

THE MASON: A SINCERE MAN.

IN delineating the character of the Freemason we shall avoid giving too free a rein to the imagination. We may set up an ideal standard of excellence, but we shall not go the length of imagining that every Mason has attained that standard. In our opening number we pointed out, with a certain freedom of language which some, perhaps, may have mistaken for overboldness, that at all events every representative Freemason, holding distinguished rank in the Fraternity, should exhibit that

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refinement of mind and manner which characterise the gentleman. Otherwise, and we cited a not improbable case, he might involve the Order he represented in endless ridicule. In the present article we shall mark the limits of our proposition somewhat more precisely, and not without reason. We claim that every true Mason is essentially a sincere man. It is quite possible, of course, that some may be more sincere than others. Some, again, are sincere under certain conditions, while others exhibit this trait under certain other conditions. But, though the scale of sincerity which prevails among the brotherhood may be graduated, the quality itself is of the very essence of Masonry. To take a man on the very threshold of his Masonic career;—he joins the Order from pure love and respect for its principles. So, offering himself as a candidate for the first degree, he openly avers that he has no ulterior hope of gain in becoming a Mason. He is aware of the respect almost universally accorded to Freemasons in free countries. He is not ignorant of the oppression and persecutions to which the brotherhood have been and still are subjected under despotic governments, or of the reasons that have led to such oppression and persecution. He knows there is one mystic tie which, quite apart from all other ties, unites all the brethren in all parts of the world. With this knowledge, he voluntarily undertakes the obligations of Masonry. Can it or ought it to be doubted that such a man is actuated by sincerity? Some there may be who are influenced by other and less worthy motives. They see or think they see their way clear to profit by the new "connection" they have established, anticipating, perhaps, a speedier advance in wealth and social estimation, or some other advantage more or less material. In ordinary circumstances this kind of motive—that is, a desire for advancement in wealth and the world's esteem—may not be looked upon very unfavourably, but we trust and believe that the Masons who hope for profit from their enrolment in the Order are few and far between.

It is, perhaps, in the nature of things that some men should be more, some less sincere than others. All minds are not constituted alike. There are those which are readily impressed by momentary occurrences, but the impression soon passes away, and is forgotten. Others again are influenced but very slowly, but the influence is an abiding one. There is, in fact, the same difference between these two classes of men as between tablets of wax on the one hand, and tablets of stone or brass on the other. The inscription on the former is clear and precise enough while it lasts, but the material of the tablets is very perishable. Equally clear and precise are the inscriptions on stone or brazen tablets, but stone and brass, as compared with wax, are, so to speak, imperishable. The impression remains therefore, nor can it be removed, save by the utter destruction of the tablet on which it is engraven. Again, the smooth soft surface of wax is capable of receiving any number of impressions one after the other. A very moderate degree of heat or pressure suffices to remove all traces of the first, and but little is necessary to make a second, and, it may be, an entirely opposite one. This is not possible with such unyielding material as stone or brass. Time and labour are required both to efface the old, and substitute the new inscription. Thus, the impressionable man is no doubt sincere enough so long as the impression remains, but only for so long; while he who yields less readily is, in the majority of cases, more lastingly impressed. Of course every man must judge for himself as to the worthiness or unworthiness of the motives which prompt him to any particular course. Our province is to point out what motives should influence the Mason in the entering upon and fulfilling his duties. Assuredly not the least important among them is sincerity.

We offer these remarks in perfect good faith. Many people imagine that Masonry is a kind of hobby, which men follow for mere amusement. They are not aware that every member on entering the brotherhood binds himself, by the most solemn obligations, to certain rules of life, that he accepts certain principles to guide him in his relations and intercourse with the other brethren. Some regard it as an ancient mystery, with much quaint ceremonial, but comparatively meaningless. Others fancy that admission to a Lodge is pretty much the same thing as admission to a club. It is perfectly true that Masons have certain signs and symbols for the purpose of mutual recognition. It is highly probable that a Mason is what Dr. Johnson called a clubbable man. But these notions fall very far short of the reality, ignoring, as they do, the true aims which have always influenced Masons from the remotest ages. We are neither surprised nor offended that the outer world should hold these views. Considering the state of darkness in which they live, they could hardly, indeed, do otherwise. The business of a Mason is the fulfilment of certain sacred duties, and no one can conscientiously observe these duties, who is not animated by the purest and most disinterested motives, or, in other words, who is not a perfectly sincere man.

MASONIC RENCONTRES — THE TWO ISTHMUS.

BY BRO. WALTER SPENCER, F.R.G.S., &c.

Sequel.

NINE years later, in March 1872, steaming past the historic ranges of Sinai and from the Red Sea up the gulf of Suez, recollections of the Western Isthmus recurred to me; of five weary days passed killing time at Colon; of a passage up the Gulf of Mexico, and the ruses adopted to escape the kind inquiries of *Captain Semmes*, the notorious *Alabama;* of the first burst of the fury of the Equinoctials off Cape Hatteras, where, hove to for three days off a lee shore, two drifting wrecks showed us the possibilities fate had in store. How different looked the landscape here! Instead of wooded emerald islets in "dark purple spheres of sea"—were desolate sandy shores with background of bare inhospitable rock. The sunshine poured down in torrid brilliancy, making the atmosphere vibrate and giving to distances a prismatic or mirage-like effect; no soothing tints of verdure for the scorched eye to rest on, but cruel colouring of sand and stone.

Provided with gauze-sided, smoke-coloured "goggles," we landed at Suez—clad all in white, from helmet and puccheree down to canvas shoes. In the mingling of nationalities, the contrast with America seemed greatest; we were brushed by the flowing garments of oily Armenians and sleek Persians; scowled at by vagabond Arabs and stalking Bedàween; importuned by Egyptian touts and Coptic porters. In place of the negro vendors of Columbian staples: ragged mincing Greeks, of noble features and voluble mendacity, vociferously drew attention to gorgeous Nile hookahs (made in Germany); variegated Syrian scarves (fresh from Manchester); Fez caps from Constantinople and French photographs without end. The monetary medium, alone furnished some point of analogy. The currencies of both Isthmus were alike bewildering in complicated variety. But whilst that of Panama consisted of eagles, condors, doblòns, dollars, reals, milreis, cents and the same mutilated into quarters and eighths, of every State of the Americas, in addition to the coins of Europe; this of Suez comprised queer specimens from all parts, including forgotten Mediterranean coinages, those of Spain, Portugal, Italy, Greece, and many whose elegant flourishes betokened Asiatic or African origin, together with the dumpy bits from Siam, and solid itziboos from far Japan. The effigy of the first Napoleon was on some pieces, recalling his Egyptian expedition and vain dream of Asiatic Empire.

On the same afternoon the fine steamship "Poseidon" entered the Canal cut by the great Lesseps; restorer of communication which the wisdom of a Pharoah, and after of a Ptolemy, had provided centuries before. When the disasters of NAPOLEON III. shall have classed him with Francis I. and Charles XII. in historical statistics, *a great name will live and a true fame be founded* UPON THE BENEFICENT PATRONAGE AND COSMOPOLITAN STATESMANSHIP, WHICH ENSURED THE EXECUTION OF THIS COLOSSAL WORK!

We stood on deck under the awning, and marvelled how sufficient depth could be secured in the yielding sand-bed of so narrow a way. It seemed almost possible for one to jump ashore on either side. In one place was a ferry-bridge; a long train of Arabs, with their womankind and loaded camels, came toiling from off the desert to the marge, to wait for a chance of crossing. Their striped burnous and long guns slung behind them, confirmed forcibly the conventional pictures of Eastern scenery familiar to us. Past these, an unexpected obstruction appeared. The tide was falling, and right ahead we descried an ugly iron steamer lying diagonally on her beam-ends across the channel. We dropped anchor, and soon two boat loads of our passengers proceeded to the place, to see how matters stood. Looking backward from

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the boats, we saw behind the graceful lines of the "Poseidon," the huge white bulk of the Indian troop-ship "Serapis" crowded with invalids; behind her again a long line of masts and chimnies; all brought to a stand by the same vexatious incident, and following as closely as the Canal rules would allow. The masters and anxious passengers of these hurrying homeward-bounders were doubtless wafting liberal blessings towards the cause of our delay; which we found to be an empty collier, on return voyage from Bombay, hopelessly stuck fast until next tide. Preparation was already afoot, by means of stout cables to stakes on the bank, and the aid of a Company's tug, to warp her off as soon as possible; and there being nothing for us to do, we elected to take a walk on shore. Though the blistering yielding sand seemed not inviting, and others were contented gambolling with the dogs by the Canal margin, I toiled up and blundered over the rough sandhills, emerging upon the level plain behind. It was nigh sunset; the arid desert stretched blasted and treeless, up to bare ranges on the horizon—in the distance gleamed the white stones of Suez—before me ran the sweet-water Canal, and beyond it white smoke-clouds hovering in the blue air told of the train upon its flight to Cairo.

At some distance along the bank was visible a cluster of buildings, which, on nearer approach, proved to be a wooden house and large courtyard. The canal telegraph which branched off thence across the desert, showed the purpose of this desolate station. On a huge board over against the canal, appeared in large letters, its curious name, which I have forgotten, but fancy it was something like "*Gare Guillaumet.*" Outside a swing-gate stood a pretty, pale child, with flowing hair, who fled as I approached. Urged simply by curiosity, I strolled into the yard or *corral* and seeing the house-door wide open, looked in. The gaping weather-boarding of the outer walls, betrayed the scorching heat to which the place was exposed. Within, I saw a room well panelled, though with unpainted, unvarnished woodwork. Some shelves stood at the end, near a window; a plain deal table and some cane chairs completed the furniture. The occupant—a pale thin man with a stoop, laid down a meerschaum pipe, and rose courteously, asking me in French, to enter. Some hazy reminiscence floated across me, as I gazed into his sunken blue eyes. As I sat down opposite to him, apologising for my intrusion; notwithstanding his prematurely faded aspect and worn features, I recognised my brother and benefactor of Panama.

I at once claimed his recollection of the circumstances. After pondering awhile, a gleam of recognition awoke, which on calling to mind the sword-stick, at once ripened into pleasure. He became then almost talkative, though a hopeless sort of lassitude (effect, no doubt, of the climate) seemed to have taken hold of him. I recounted my wanderings since we parted, and at length, over a bottle of *absinthe*, extracted from him, bit by bit, the following narrative.

Some months after my departure, he had left the service of the Panama Railroad Company, and set to work to develope the riches of the old Spanish gold mine. On the point of success he was struck down with fever; and during the crisis when his life was despaired of, and subsequent tardy convalescence, his labourers robbed him of all he possessed, and deserted. He had to leave the place, broken in health, with the additional mortification of seeing some Chinamen, who had confined themselves to washing the old "tailings" of the Spaniards, on the high road to fortune. At Colon he had shipped as steward on board an American vessel, bound with India-rubber and other produce to a port in Spain. Arrived in Europe, he had a recurrence of fever (to which one is ever after more or less liable), and remained for some time in Hospital at Marseilles. Applying to a Lodge in that city, he had been most cordially assisted, and through fraternal recommendation obtained the berth of purser on a Mediterranean packet. At length, acquaintance with an employé of the French Embassy at Constantinople, procured him a situation there, and he joined one of our English Lodges at Pera. Attracted by a compatriot, proprietor of a Café at Smyrna, he went to that place, and joined him in business. His partner dying, leaving affairs in great disorder, he married the widow—a fine Levantine, and strove to support the family by trading in a small way. Times were going hard with him, when a fortunate presentation to M. de Lesseps gave him subsequent opportunity to ask for employment in which his old knowledge of Telegraphy might be available. This post was the result; and his object was to save sufficient to enable him, in two or three years time, to start a general store at Alexandria, where his wife had relatives.

At about this point in our conversation, some one emerged from the darkness into the doorway. It was one of the ship's officers, come to look for me. Being offered a glass of *Absinthe*, he muttered, under his breath, "*This is the stuff they kill themselves here with, is it?*"

It being imperative for me to return to the steamer, I could only depart, wishing him every kind of success; leaving him, I trust, in rather improved spirits, for it was but seldom he had opportunity of seeing strangers or in fact, any society except his family.

On return to the "Poseidon," I at once requisitioned the ships' stores for tinned milk, sweet biscuits, a bottle of cognac and a dozen of claret. These, with a box of Manila No. 1's, were despatched to the wooden house next morning in charge of a steward, and I trust repaid in some measure, the hospitality of nine years before. By breakfast time we were well on our way to the Bitter Lakes, and fresh subjects of interest arose to efface the remembrance of this second rencontre.

It was not till one starlight night as we steamed past the Pillars of Hercules, that whilst watching the phosphorescent wave-crests of the Mediterranean mingle with the long swell of the Atlantic, I remembered the strange prediction recounted to me by *Girandier* at Panamà; which he seemed now to have forgotten; and which, if sunken cheeks and languid bearing could be taken as evidence, seemed already too near to its accomplishment.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

WE beg to remind our readers that the Anniversary Festival of this Institution will be held on Wednesday, the 27th instant, when the Right Honourable the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, Provincial Grand Master of Staffordshire, will occupy the chair. Our notice of the immense benefits conferred by this charity, and of the necessity there is for maintaining, and even, if possible, extending its sphere of usefulness, is so recent, that any further comment by us is hardly necessary. However, we subjoin a complete list of the Board of Stewards, the President being, it will be observed, R.W. Bro. Samuel Rawson, P. Dist. G.M., China.

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Bro. JAMES TERRY (Secretary to the Institution), 4 Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.

ADDRESS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ORANGE BROTHERHOOD OF SCOTLAND, BY MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER BRO. CHALMERS I. PATON.

We have received a copy of this interesting document, and have great pleasure in submitting it in *extenso* to the notice of our readers.

Brethren,—I think it probable you may expect that, after my installation as Grand Master of Scotland, I should say something to you concerning our duties as Members of the Orange Brotherhood, and this I now propose to do.

I am deeply sensible of the high honour which has been conferred on me; but I assure you I am equally sensible of the great responsibility which attaches to the office of Grand Master; and allow me to say, brethren, that a similar responsibility ought to be felt by you all. The deeper our sense of responsibility is, the greater will be our zeal,—the more energetic our action; and yet the more will we be inclined to thoughtful consideration of every step to be taken—the less disposed to hasty resolutions and rash precipitancy.

We are responsible all of us to Him who has given us the powers that we possess, the light and knowledge that we enjoy, to use these powers to His glory, and to live in accordance with our light and knowledge. Can we give thanks, as I trust we all do, for the blessings of education, and for that which is more excellent than all the sciences, the light of Divine Truth manifested in the glorious gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, the knowledge of God and of the way of Salvation, without feeling also a deep sense of responsibility lying upon us, to adorn the Gospel in our whole walk and conversation, so that our light may shine before men, that they may be constrained to acknowledge the excellency of the light reflected by us, and may be induced to seek light for themselves from its only source? Or can we be indifferent to the diffusion of the knowledge of the Gospel among those who are ignorant of it, who sit in darkness and the shadow of death? Can we give thanks, as we have much reason to do, for the peace and good government of our native land, for the civil and religious liberty which we enjoy, and for the excellency of the British Constitution,—that Protestant Constitution by which these blessings are secured to us,—without feeling the responsibility which lies upon us to do all in our power for the maintenance of it in its integrity, that so the peace and order and civil and religious liberty, for the sake of which our forefathers struggled so nobly, and so many of them died on the battlefield, at the stake, and on the scaffold, may be preserved for ourselves to the last day that we live, and transmitted unimpaired to succeeding generations?

We are banded together for great and holy objects. It is no political partnership which is the bond of our union. The principles which govern us, the sentiments which animate us, belong to a higher and nobler sphere. Political parties are always fluctuating and changing, their watchwords and battle-cries are soon forgotten; but our principles are not changeable, and our course of action must ever be the same, till complete victory crowns our efforts, till the great enemy of light and liberty is finally driven from the field, till the cry arises, "Babylon is fallen, is fallen!" How animating the thought that the victory is sure. The struggle may be long and arduous; reverses and discomfitures may await us; but they will be only partial and temporary. Believing the Bible to be the Word of God, we can entertain no doubt of the fulfilment of the prophecy which we find in it of the final overthrow and destruction of that hateful system, that hellish power, against which we are called to contend. This encouraging thought is not calculated to make us supine, but to stir us up to greater earnestness of exertion and of prayer. The event will be as prophecy declares; but it will be brought about by means; it will be the answer of prayer; aye, not only of our prayers, and of the prayers of our fellow-Protestants of this generation, but of prayers long ago registered in heaven, the prayers of thousands and tens of thousands of God's children who have gone to their eternal rest, the prayers of a multitude of martyrs who have sealed their testimony with their blood. It will be the result of efforts wisely and prayerfully and perseveringly made.

The struggle between Popery and Bible Christianity has been a long one, and it is not ended yet. It has been carried on by very different means on the one side and on the other; on the one by weapons not carnal, by the proclamation of Gospel truth, by the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God; and on the other by rack, and dungeon, and stake, and gibbet, and fire, and sword. It began as soon as Popery had attained a nearly complete development, or, in Scripture phrase, when "the man of sin," "the son of perdition," "that wicked," "was revealed," "whom the Lord shall consume with the Spirit of His mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of His coming."* I can but allude in the briefest possible manner to the persecutions of the dark ages before the Reformation—

* Thess. II. 3-8.

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the persecution of the Waldenses in the Alpine valleys of Piedmont and France; the crusades, under St. Dominic and Simon de Montford, against the Albigenses of the south of France, in which many thousands of men and women were remorselessly butchered for no other reason but that they held a purer faith than that of Rome, and a country was made desolate, which excelled every other country of Europe in literature and industry and civilisation; the persecution of the Wickliffites and Lollards and Hussites in England, in Scotland, in Bohemia, and elsewhere on the Continent of Europe. I need only remind you how soon after the Reformation the fires of persecution were kindled by Popish bigots, and how terrible were the persecutions to which Protestants were subjected in various countries during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. I need only remind you of the Inquisition and its multitude of victims in Spain and Italy; of the sufferings of the Protestants of France, and the Massacre of St. Bartholomew's Day; of the atrocities perpetrated during the government of the Duke of Alva in the Low Countries. In England and in Scotland the Reformation soon had its martyrs. From the day when Patrick Hamilton was burned at the stake at St. Andrews, till the ultimate triumph of the Reformation in 1560, numerous martyrs sealed their testimony with their blood in Scotland. Far more did so in England during the reign of the Bloody Mary. The accession of Queen Elizabeth to the English throne, not only put an end to persecution, but gave to English Protestantism the position which it has ever since held, as the national religion and an essential part of the constitution. But Protestantism, although holding that position, both in England and Scotland ever since the memorable year 1560, has not held it unassailed. The cause of Protestantism, and the cause of liberty, ever bound up with it, were in great danger during the reigns of Charles II. and his brother James, when the Covenanters of Scotland so nobly contended for the rights of conscience and the purity of religion; and many of them died martyrs for a cause which was dearer to them than their life. It was the Protestantism of England, aroused to a sense of danger, that swept the Popish bigot, James, from his throne, made the people hail William of Orange as their deliverer, and accomplished the glorious Revolution of 1688; and when James attempted to regain his lost crown, it was to the Papists that he turned for support; and the war in Ireland, memorable for the siege of Derry and for the battle of the Boyne, was not so much between two competitors for the throne, or two rival dynasties, as between Popery and Protestantism. The decisive victory of William in the battle of the Boyne, and the dissolution of the Highland Army raised in James's cause in Scotland by Graham of Claverhouse, Viscount Dundee, gave security to the Protestant Constitution of the three kingdoms, which was only afterwards imperilled by the Rebellions of 1715 and 1745. In our own day, Popery, no longer venturing on open assault, has sought to undermine our Protestant Constitution, and, through the folly and supineness of Protestants, has been permitted to proceed too far in the unhallowed work. It has not been our lot, as yet, to be called to contend for our civil and religious liberty, or, which is really the same thing, for our Protestant Constitution, sword in hand, as our fathers did. I trust we are ready, as it behoves us to be. Yet let us hope and pray that there may never be need; but that there may not be, we must zealously exert ourselves in resisting by peaceful and constitutional means, all the aggressions of Popery. We must not allow the enemy to gain power and establish himself within our walls. The struggle is not ended yet; and there is much for us to do, if we would show ourselves worthy sons of the fathers from whom we have derived, in the British Constitution, in civil and religious liberty, and above all, in the Protestant Religion and the open Bible, so glorious an inheritance.

The objects of Orangeism are at once religious and patriotic. We are united to uphold the cause of Protestantism, and to contend against Popery; and more particularly to maintain intact the Protestant Constitution of our country. It may be profitable for us to think what is implied in being combined for these objects. Every Orangeman is a Protestant, and Protestantism is simply true and pure Christianity. Luther and Zwingle and Calvin, and the other Reformers of the sixteenth century, did not introduce a new religion into the world. They purged away from the Church the errors and idolatrous abominations of Popery; they opened the Bible which the Popish priesthood had closed, and spread before the eyes of wondering men the truth and will of God therein revealed; they called upon men to make that Word of God their rule of faith and practice, renouncing all that they found to be contrary to it, and to believe and worship and live as the Apostles did, and the members of the Church in the Apostolic age. May every one of us have grace to consider this well, that a true Orangeman is of necessity a true Protestant, and a true Protestant a true Christian! So shall we be moved to earnestness in personal religion, not contented with a name and profession; and so shall our influence be powerful for good. Our prayers shall be those that bring down a blessing in wisdom of counsel and earnestness of working for a glorious cause ever dearer and dearer to our hearts.

Much depends upon this, that our adversaries shall have nothing to reproach us with,—nothing in our private life and individual spheres, nothing in our united action. Let us see to it that we show in our whole conduct the power of the truth, which it is one of the great objects of our Order to prevent Popish priests from hiding from our fellowmen. Let us make it manifest that we are upright and conscientious, that we are loyal subjects, obeying and respecting the laws of the land, peace-loving, and affectionately desirous of the welfare even of those whose principles we abhor, but whose ignorance we pity and deplore.

In all our united action let us keep this rule in view. Let all the means we use for the accomplishment of our objects be strictly constitutional. Thus shall we make our influence felt most powerfully, and increase it every day, gaining the co-operation of those who, although they have not joined our Brotherhood, have the same cause at heart. And there is much which we may do in this way; there are many special objects which we thus aid in accomplishing. We may do much, for example, by petitions to Parliament for or against particular measures, as they are favourable to the cause of Protestantism, or adverse to it. Numerous petitions with great numbers of signatures have influence with Parliament. The effect could not but be great of petitions from all the Orange Lodges in the country, signed not only by the Worshipful Master, in name of the Lodge, but by every member. And there ought to be no difficulty in getting petitions so signed. Let every man do his duty. His sense of obligation and responsibility ought to lead every Brother to make a point of appending his signature; whilst some would be moved to undertake the duty of presenting the petitions for signature to those who might be unable to attend the meeting of the Lodge.

There is another way in which, it appears to me, Orangemen may exercise much influence for good,—by laying their views and wishes before the parliamentary representatives of the counties or towns in which they dwell. Those who are already decided in favour of the course which a true regard for Protestant interests requires, will thus be encouraged; the hesitating may be led to decide in the right way; and those who are inclined in the opposite way may be induced to change their course, or, at least, if they do not vote as we would wish them, to abstain from voting. Members of Parliament cannot afford to be indifferent to the views and wishes of their constituents.

I will give two examples of Bills, with regard to which, I think, we ought to petition, and to bring all our influence to bear on our parliamentary representatives,—Bills which have been before Parliament, and are likely, I believe, to be introduced again soon after Parliament meets,—Mr. Newdegate's Bill for the Inspection of Convents, and the Prison Ministers Bill. We ought to petition in favour of Mr. Newdegate's Bill, and to give him all the support in our power, to persevere, as he has nobly done, in the face of the most violent and determined Popish opposition, until his endeavours are crowned with success. It would be out of place here to bring forward arguments in favour of the Bill for the Inspection of Convents, and I believe you all know already how strong they are. I will remind you that, at present,—although the existence of a convent in Britain is contrary to law, and they are in no way sanctioned, but merely tolerated,—convents are spots of British ground from which the operation of British law is practically and wholly excluded, and which are really under the government of the Pope alone, administered by Popish bishops and priests; whilst within them there may be, and most probably there are, many poor wretches, hopelessly deprived of that common blessing of all Britons—liberty; nay, possibly subjected to severe punishments and tortures, at the caprice of a superior, under pretence of regard for the welfare of their souls; and that it is quite possible, whilst facts in the history of convents make us to think it in the highest degree probable, that many horrible deeds of darkness are done in them. It is not unreasonable that the truth as to these things should be inquired into. And surely we ought to aid in opening the prison doors and letting the oppressed go free. As to the Prison Ministers Bill, it is one promoted by Papists, and which we ought to oppose with all our might. It proposes the further endowment of Popery; which, of itself ought to be enough to decide our course with regard to it. Besides which it would subvert the whole discipline of prisons, giving to a Popish priest, appointed, not by the magistrates or Prison Board, but by the Popish bishop, a right of interference subversive of order, inconsistent with the good management of the prison, and calculated to promote the interests of Popery alone. I mention these two bills, because of their great importance, and because they are likely to be among the first to demand your attention.

Let me say, further, that we should put forth our utmost efforts at Parliamentary elections to secure the return of members of sound Protestant opinions. Let us disregard minor considerations, and unite in support of Protestantism. There are constituencies in which those electors who are Orangemen, if united as one man in support of a particular candidate, could secure his election. And this fact, clearly demonstrated and well understood, would have a strong influence on the minds of other candidates. Much good might be done by Orangemen coming forward in as great numbers as possible, at the meetings of candidates with electors, and giving expression to their opinions and wishes there.

Municipal elections ought also to receive our constant attention. It is of great importance that we should have good men, and sound Protestants in our town councils. From their number, and by them, the magistrates of towns are chosen, and it much concerns the public interest, that these should be men of right principles and views. Instances have occurred, within these few years, which show plainly how dangerous a thing it is to have men in the highest municipal offices who are either Papists, or of those extreme and false liberal views which incline to favour Popery, or anything else that is bad.

There is yet another class of elections in which many of us are called to take part—elections of members of school boards. I need hardly say that the election of true-hearted and right-thinking men to be members of school-boards, is of the utmost importance to the welfare of the community; and I trust you will always do your utmost to secure the election of those who are not merely in name Protestants, but zealous in their Protestantism—men of piety, firmly holding the principles of the Reformation.

As patriots, we must look specially to what concerns our own country; but as Christians, we must feel an interest in what concerns other countries also. Protestantism is in conflict with Popery in many parts of the world. The cause of our brethren in America, in Germany, in Switzerland, and wherever Popery is striving against them, and they are opposing its aggressions, is *our* cause. There may not be much that we can do for them, but we may at least encourage them by the expression of our sympathy, and support them by our prayers.

Brethren, I have laid before you some of my views. I trust they are such as will meet with your approbation, and that we shall go

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on together during the term of my Grand Mastership, united heart and hand in the prosecution of those objects which are proper for the advancement of our great cause. May the blessing of God rest upon us! May our numbers rapidly increase, and our influence become greater in the land, and be more and more exerted for good, always and only for good!

WINES AND SPIRITS (Foreign) on which Duty was paid in London by some of the principal firms during the past year.

WINES (Foreign)	Gallons
W & A Gilbey	866,296
Dingwall, Portal & Co ...	130,632
F W Cosens	115,800
R Hooper & Sons	103,095
Max Gregor & Co	100,106
D Taylor & Sons	86,555
Dent, Urwick & Co	79,791
Cunliffe & Co	78,251
T W Stapleton & Co	76,834
W J Murray	76,292
H T Mayfield	73,665
C G Phillips & Co	72,002

SPIRITS (Foreign)	Gallons
W & A Gilbey	318,534
Twiss & Browning	193,311
Daniel Taylor & Sons ...	165,065
Trower & Lawson	163,097
Dingwall, Portal & Co ...	136,794
Galbraith, Grant & Co ...	91,828
R Hooper & Sons	81,264
E S Pick & Co	68,302
R Burnett & Son	58,691
Dunn & Vallentin	56,329
Osmond & Co	56,181
Fulcher & Robinson	46,849

Besides the preceding there were about 2000 firms who paid duty on Wines and Spirits in less quantities than those above mentioned.—*Wine Trade Review, 15th January* 1875.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY NEWS.

FRIDAY.

One result of the threatened rupture between the Turks and Montenegrins this week was to depress the market all round the moment the news became current on 'Change. At first the excitement was made the most of for speculative purposes, but the agitation created by this intelligence has since toned down, and it seems probable that the violent fluctuations which took possession of business will be fairly recovered. Next to this in importance has been the advent of the Brazilian loan for five millions sterling. The bonds bear interest at the rate of five per cent., and the price of issue was fixed at 96½; but notwithstanding this high figure, it is stated that the subscriptions have far exceeded the amount required. The reasons given for this new loan being required are plausible enough, and appear to stand thus: the enormous rise in the value of coffee greatly enriched Southern Brazil, and its riches so obtained have given a great impetus to railway extension to the more distant coffee growing districts. Already the planters of one province have pushed forward a line for themselves out of their own resources, and now they are connecting the arterial line by a branch which will open up communication between the province in question and the capital, Rio Janeiro. For securing the extension of these and similar works a special provincial tax is imposed, providing for the remuneration of shareholders and bondholders under all conditions. The principal railway in the country, already belongs to the Imperial Government, dividends of 7 per cent. having been paid on a capital of £5,000,000. The necessary funds for carrying out this undertaking have been provided by an issue of Treasury Bonds, which the Government now seeks to pay off, as also to proceed with its onward construction by means furnished by the new loan. So that for the greater part of its so-applied proceeds the Brazilian Government will be recouped, interest and amortisation out of the profits of this its own property. The remaining portion of the Loan will also go to advance Public Works, which there is also reason to anticipate will be remunerative. The new Loan is therefore raised, not to fill up deficits, or to meet extravagant expenditure, but to promote enterprises principally of undoubted security, and profit to the Government.

Consols are unaffected by any of the changes that have taken place in other directions, and remain firm at previous prices.

To some extent the Foreign market has suffered from the outbreak previously referred to, and the feeling of uncertainty with regard to Turkish Stocks. Many operations have been noted at a downward tendency, but the unfavourable symptoms are not so strong at the close.

Business has been fairly maintained in the English Railway market, although a certain amount of depression crept in at one time in sympathy with the agitation elsewhere. There is evidently a revival of confidence in these undertakings, and quotations are taking an upward turn. Midland and Metropolitan stocks are marked higher, as well as North Staffordshire.

In miscellaneous securities there is not much movement, the principal being a heavy fall in Turkish; Imperial Ottoman Bank shares have been largely sold.

We are informed that the Khedive has determined upon the establishment of a Ministry of Commerce in Egypt, upon the model of the English Board of Trade, and has expressed a wish, through the Foreign Office, to obtain the services of two officers of the Board of Trade competent to assist in organising the new department. We understand that the President of the Board of Trade has accordingly recommended Mr. H. Cholmondeley Pennell and Mr. E. A. R. Acton to assist the Egyptian Government in organising respectively the departments for Internal and External Commerce.

The Chinese Imperial Loan, contracted with the Hong-Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, has met with great success. The applications for bonds were seven times in excess of the number offered to public subscription.

The report to be presented at the meeting of the London and Westminster Bank states the net profits for the half-year at £188,648, raising the "rest" to £1,234,798, out of which the directors recommend a dividend of 11 per cent. for the six months, leaving the "rest" at £1,014,798. The deposits, circular notes, &c., amount to £30,015,194. The shares of the New Zealand Manganese Mines Company are quoted at 1 premium.

The ordinary meeting of the Coal Consumers' Association, is to be held on the 27th inst., to receive the general report, and also the report of the committee of investigation.

In the French National Assembly a bill has been presented by the Minister of Public Works for the construction of the long projected railway tunnel under the Channel. The French Company to which the concession is granted, undertake to carry out the work without any State grant or guarantee of interest on capital.

On and after the 1st of next month the mails from England and Scotland to the north of Ireland will be conveyed by the short sea route, *viâ* Larne and Stranraer. During the past two or three months there have been frequent complaints as to the service *viâ* Holyhead and Kingstown, and a town meeting has been held in Belfast on the subject, presided over by the mayor.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—These precious treasures work wonderful cures of the worst diseases, which defy other treatment. Thousands have extolled them as they deserve, yet have not given them one word of praise more than they richly merited. An attentive study of the directions wrapped round Holloway's medicaments will enable any invalid to overcome his infirmity, whether it be outwardly visible or inwardly concealed. Sores, skin diseases, inflammation, erysipelas, chest complaints, as well as most disorders of the head, stomach, liver, kidneys, and bowels, may be radically removed by these means, which are no less potent in successfully contending with the oft-times fatal ulcerations of the throat which periodically render scarlet fever and diphtheria most terrible public scourges.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Q.—We have already touched upon the subject; see our opening number. It is early yet to revert to it.

J. H. E.—We shall deal with the question you have raised when the date fixed for the Annual Festival is nearer. We shall then gladly heed any suggestions you may think fit to make.

ENIGMA.—With all due respect we submit that you are in error. Try, at all events, to substantiate your facts, then, perhaps, your view of the circumstances, will have greater weight.

We shall be obliged if our correspondents will write their communications on one side of the paper only.

CROWDED OUT.—Promised reply to E. M. H.'s letter and other matter.

CORRESPONDENCE.

All Letters must bear the name and address of the Writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.

THE FREEMASONS' LIFEBOAT.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR,—I am greatly obliged to Bro. E. Gottheil, the Hon. Secretary of the Freemasons' Lifeboat Fund, for his lucid history of an event of such interest to the Order generally, and of which I was, I confess, in utter ignorance. I have been two years a Mason, and have attended my Lodge meetings with great regularity, but I do not remember ever hearing that the Fraternity had been the generous donors of a Lifeboat. My letter was written on the impulse of the moment, shortly after the occurrence of the series of storms which will make the closing months of 1874 memorable in Naval Annals. I do not however regret that the question has been raised in your columns. I have recently looked into the statistics published by the Lifeboat Association, and I find that cash to pay the working expenses of the boats already in the possession of the Association is urgently needed.

I shall be glad to subscribe a guinea for the formation of an Endowment Fund, having for its object the payment of the annual expenses incurred in working the Boat presented by the Order. I trust others of my brethren will contribute. It seems to me that we, who "live at home at ease," incur a fearful responsibility if we do not do all in our power to succour the seaman in his hour of dire distress. It is no doubt possible for the Legislature to do much for the class who get their bread on the ocean; but when all that Parliament can do has been accomplished, there will be ample room for private enterprise and benevolence to come to the rescue of Poor Jack.

I am, Sir,

Yours Fraternally,

Liverpool, 18th January. A MASTER MASON.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR AND BROTHER,—I am in entire ignorance of your sentiments on a subject somewhat important to myself, and one on which I have been rather severely lectured by your contemporary, *The Freemason*;—Whether I am absolutely disqualified, or to what extent I ought to feel myself debarred, *virtute officii*, from taking part in discussions in Grand Lodge, or elsewhere, on questions intimately associated with the interests of our great institutions. I appeal for space in your columns, therefore, to place before the Craft the facts and figures I was desirous of submitting, from my seat in Grand Lodge, at the last Quarterly Communication. I could not ask this favour from your contemporary, because I yet fail to recognise the distinction drawn by him in the concession of my perfect right to express my opinions in print, and the abnegation of my right to do so orally in Grand Lodge. If the objection to Bro. A. B., not *as* Bro. A. B., but *qud* Bro. "*Secretary*" A.B., be valid, it must be valid alike everywhere, and

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under all circumstances. To put a bar on the door of my lips, and at the same time to offer me the free use of my pen, is, to me, a refinement of inconsistency that my plain reason does not permit me to comprehend.

This is the way in which I purposed making the attempt. For several years past I have felt that the time must have arrived when Grand Lodge might fairly be asked to re-consider the amount, annually contributed from its funds to the two educational institutions, though guided solely, I am prepared to admit, by the exigencies of the Boys' school. Knowing how strong a feeling existed in opposition to the terms of Bro. Clabon's motion, it was my intention to propose an amendment, to the effect "that it be referred to the Board of General Purposes to consider the amount of the annual grants by Grand Lodge to the charitable institutions associated with the Order, and to report thereon to Grand Lodge." No large amount of "sentiment" here, nor any very forcible "argument *ad misericordiam*." I should have based my proposition on these statistics:—

In the year 1812, 3rd June, "It was resolved and ordered that every Lodge in and adjacent to the cities of London and Westminster, upon the registering of every new-made Mason, shall contribute and pay the sum of five shillings; and that every Country, Foreign, and Military Lodge, upon the registering of every new-made Mason, shall in like manner pay the sum of two shillings and sixpence; which sum shall go, and be paid, in aid of the Institution for clothing and educating the sons of deceased and indigent Freemasons."

In the year 1812, the number of boys "clothed and educated" (*not maintained*) was 50.

The total payments to this Institution by Grand Lodge, for a period of 14 years, from 1826 to 1839, was £1,536 6s 3d, which gives an average of some few shillings less than £110.

Estimating the fee all round at 2s 6d this would represent 880 certificates to "new-made Masons." For the year ending March 1839 the total expenditure of the Institution was £536.

The payment of 2s 6d on each certificate was, in the next year, commuted for an annual subsidy of £150, and at that amount it has remained ever since. Up to 1840, therefore, Grand Lodge saw fit to undertake about 20 per cent. of the total expenditure of the Institution.

In the year 1874 the number of boys educated, clothed and *maintained* was 176, and the total expenditure was (in round figures, subject to audit) £7,800.

In the same year, 1874, I apprehend, at a low estimate, the issue of certificates will have reached 8,000—which, had the fee of 2s 6d remained, would have yielded £800.

If, therefore, the commutation of the fee of 2s 6d was fair in 1840, it is manifestly not equitable to continue it at the same sum in 1874, and surely there is nothing censurable in attempting a revision. From my point of view, I think, Sir and Brother, here is contained the "hard reality of figures," and I have no wish to weaken their force by any further comments of mine.

"*Quieta non movere*" is all very well in some affairs. It has not, so far as I am aware, been adopted as a Masonic adage, certainly not so far as our Institutions are concerned. They have grown with Masonry—with the progress of the Order they have progressed, more than *pari passu*. The *principle* of a grant has been conceded, and I ask that, from the largely augmented annual receipts of Grand Lodge, some considerably increased annual help should be given, to relieve those Institutions from the heavy burdens which they have been called upon to bear.

In conclusion, I would express the fullest confidence that such a revision of the grants by Grand Lodge would in no way interfere with the contributions from Private Lodges, Chapters, and Provincial Grand Lodges, nor would it in any way operate to dam the stream of individual benevolence.

I am, Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

FREDERICK BINCKES.

London, 18th January, 1875.

[We readily insert this letter, but we beg to direct Bro. Binckes's attention to the notice at the heading of our correspondence column. —ED. FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.]

REVIEWS.

All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, 67 Barbican, E.C.

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The Old Constitutions belonging to the Ancient and Honourable Society of Freemasons. Reprints of the Editions of 1722-1723. London and Dublin. 1730. Edited by the Rev. John Edmund Cox, D.D., F.S.A. London: Richard Spencer. 1871.

THESE beautiful reprints should be in the hands of every Freemason who is interested in the Archæology of the Order. They are exquisitely printed in the old face type, as nearly like the originals as possible, while some of the wood-cuts, and two frontispieces have been produced in facsimile. Apart from their Masonic interest, these reprints show that the printer's art, early in the last century, was guided by the best taste. The title pages are really admirable examples of letter-press, and the headings and tail-pieces to the chapters are very characteristic, as records of Masonic affairs, and as contributions towards that comprehensive history of Freemasonry which will some day be written, they are invaluable. The Editor's preface, and the Publisher's remarks upon the originals embody much interesting information.

THE QUARTERLIES.

OUR readers will find much to interest them in the latest issues of these important periodicals. The opening article in the *Quarterly* is a long and very elaborate review of the "Greville Memoirs." It was only last week that, in noticing "Social Pressure," we took occasion to illustrate the author's remarks on "Over-Publicity" by a reference to the publication of these very journals. We had not, of course, then seen this article. It is the more gratifying, therefore, to find that the *Quarterly* critic holds exactly the same opinion as ourselves as to the more than indecent haste which has been shown in publishing memoirs which should certainly not have seen the light of day for at least the next fifty years, and then not in the form in which they have appeared. We cannot do better, perhaps, than quote the concluding paragraph of this most valuable protest against the evil of "Over-Publicity." "We are not aware," says the writer, "that we have overstepped, by a hair's breadth, the strictest limits of literary courtesy in our strong condemnation of this book. We have tacitly assumed that Greville wrote the most objectionable passages without a view to publication, and that Mr. Reeve published them without intending to injure or annoy anybody. What is done cannot be undone. But a grave error has been committed, which must not and (we think) will not be repeated. We venture to prophesy that the remaining portions of the Journal will not see the light in our time—certainly not in the same crude, mischievous, unsatisfactory form. Nor will the world be much the losers should any meditated publication of the same sort be deferred for the next hundred years. If contemporary history cannot be written without the aid of such memoirs, we had rather do without contemporary history; we can wait, for it is our firm conviction that any information or entertainment which may be derived from them is far more than counterbalanced by the annoyance they create, the distrust they inspire, the angry feelings they foster, and the false impressions of character and conduct they diffuse." There are also admirable notices of the "Life of the Prince Consort," "Farrar's Life of Christ," a paper on "Friendly Societies," and two articles on matters connected with Legal Reform. In the first are considered the relations that exist between "The English Bar and the Inns of Court." In the other, "The Judicial Investigation of Truth" is handled with a skill and sense that are worthy of all praise. The points to which the writer of the second article devotes his chief attention are these: (*a*) the law must be applied to every particular case with the minimum of error; (*b*) the law should work with the minimum of delay, (*c*) with the minimum of expense. Our readers will agree with us that the attainment of these several objects is highly desirable, and we strongly advise them to study the many and excellent suggestions to this end which the writer offers.

Among the most valuable contributions to the *Edinburgh*, may be mentioned a review of "Lord Ellenborough's Indian Administration," based on the recently published memoirs, edited by Lord Colchester. Two critical notices of "the Life of the Prince Consort" and "Cox's History of Greece," and "a Memoir of Archibald Constable." Other articles deal with "Lusio Pilaris and Lawn Tennis," in which the writer ably sketches the old game of tennis and the more recent and highly popular one known as Sphairistiké or lawn tennis, offering, at the same time, many practical suggestions for the perfection of the latter;—"The Agricultural Labourers of England," in which their complaints are analysed in a perfectly impartial spirit, and their condition compared with that of labourers in different continental countries;—and "The Heart of Africa and the Slave Trade," Dr. Schweinfarth's well known work being one of the bases of the last mentioned article, Sir Samuel Baker's "Ismailia" the other. Those persons who have not read these very valuable works will be enabled to form a capital idea of their merits, assuming, at least, that they have little or no leisure for the private study of the original works themselves.

Among the contents of *Popular Science* we noticed especially an elaborate article on "Gunpowder: its Manufacture and Conveyance." Considering the terrible effects of the "Regent's Park Explosion," the question of conveyance is of the first importance, and we are glad to learn from this article that every possible precaution is observed in conveying gunpowder from the Government factory to the stores at Purfleet. As to its manufacture, we are freely initiated into the system pursued at Waltham; and here, too, it seems the authorities observe the utmost care, so as to reduce the possibility of any accident to a minimum. Nor is this all: the process of manufacture is fully described, and an insight given us into the several descriptions of powder in use, so that any of our readers who may have a taste for this kind of study will derive much valuable information from this article.

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THE THEATRES, &c.

COVENT GARDEN.—At 7.0, THE VIVANDIERE. At 7.45, THE BABES IN THE WOOD.

DRURY LANE.—At 7.0, TEN OF 'EM. At 7.30, ALADDIN.

HAYMARKET.—At 7.30, OUR AMERICAN COUSIN and THE LOAN OF A LOVER.

ADELPHI.—At 7.0, THE DREAM AT SEA and THE CHILDREN IN THE WOOD.

PRINCESS'S.—At 7.0, THE LANCASHIRE LASS and BEAUTY AND THE BEAST.

LYCEUM.—At 6.50, FISH OUT OF WATER. At 7.45, HAMLET.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.0, TWENTY MINUTES WITH A TIGER. AT 7.30, THE TWO ORPHANS.

STRAND.—At 7.0, INTRIGUE. At 7.20, OLD SAILORS. At 9.15, LOO AND THE PARTY WHO TOOK MISS.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 7.45, SWEETHEARTS and SOCIETY.

GAIETY.—AT 7.0, BENGAL TIGER. At 8.15, MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR.

GLOBE.—At 7.0, A PRETTY PIECE OF BUSINESS. At 8.0, BLUE BEARD.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.0, CUPBOARD LOVE. At 7.45, OUR BOYS. At 10, ROMULUS AND REMUS.

CHARING CROSS.—At 7.30, DRAWING THE LINE. At 8.15, THE NEW MAGDALEN.

OPERA COMIQUE.—At 7.0, HOUSEHOLD FAIRY. At 8.15, LADY OF LYONS.

COURT.—At 7.30, PEACOCK'S HOLIDAY. At 8.30, BRIGHTON.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.0, THE TWO BONNYCASTLES. At 7.45, WHITTINGTON.

CRITERION.—LES PRES SAINT GERVAIS, &c.

AMPHITHEATRE, HOLBORN.—At 7.0, THE BEGGAR'S OPERA. At 8.15, MADAME ANGOT.

SURREY.—FORTY THIEVES and THE SECRET.

PHILHARMONIC.—At 7.30, THE WATERMAN. At 8.20, LA FILLE DE MADAME ANGOT and the GREAT DORSTS (last night). Next week, THE BOHEMIAN GIRL.

HENGLER'S CIRQUE.—At 2.30 and 7.30, LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD.

SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE.—At 2.0 and 7.0. ALADDIN AND THE WONDERFUL LAMP.

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THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE

67 BARBICAN, E.C.

DE PLURIMIS REBUS.

THE interest of the moment centres about the resignation by Mr. Gladstone of his leadership of the Liberal party, which he has virtually held since the death of Lord Palmerston in the autumn of 1865. The event can hardly have been unexpected. It was freely mooted last year, and it was only towards the very end of the Session that the Right Honourable gentleman resumed his place in the House and strenuously opposed certain measures supported by the Government. Moreover, in the ordinary course of things Mr. Gladstone's retirement from active life must have occurred sooner or later. True, many of our public men remain in office till a far more advanced age than he has attained. Lord Palmerston died in harness at 83; Earl Russell succeeded him in the Premiership at 76; and Mr. Disraeli is, we believe, in his 70th year. For this reason, doubtless, this withdrawal from the political arena, though freely canvassed, as we have said, last Session, has surprised and not a little dismayed the Opposition, who are at their wits' end to supply the vacancy. Not for lack of candidates though. Messrs. Goschen, Forster, Lowe, Lord Hartington, and Sir W. Harcourt are said to be among the foremost claimants for the vacant honour of "Leader of Her Majesty's Opposition." But has any one of these weight of character enough for so important a position? Mr. Gladstone first entered Parliament in 1832, and first took office as a Lord of the Treasury in December 1834. He was a prominent member of Sir R. Peel's Administration 1841-46, Chancellor of the Exchequer 1852-55, under Lord Aberdeen, and again filled the same office under Lords Palmerston and Russell successively, 1859-66. He was a great administrator, a great financier, a powerful speaker, and a ready débater, wanting only, perhaps, more tact and temper to have become the most eminent of modern Parliamentary leaders. Can the half of this be said of any one who is named as his probable successor? We ask not this by way of disparagement to their talents, but rather to show the loss the party have sustained by Mr. Gladstone's anticipated, yet, at the last moment, somewhat abrupt withdrawal from public life. Nor will this loss be felt by his party only. The country, likewise, will suffer. A weak Opposition—the present is weak in point of cohesion, if not in numbers—has always been regarded as detrimental to the public interests. Even the strongest Government is all the better for an active and well organised Opposition. Its measures are more carefully prepared, and when they have passed both Houses generally appear more ship-shape than when opposition is languid and criticism somewhat feeble.

The person who has created the greatest amount of excitement after the ex-premier is undoubtedly the Clerk of the weather. We ought not, perhaps, to have spoken of excitement in this case. How can any one be moved to the expression of any kind of feeling when the wind howls all night, and a drizzling rain is falling all day? We have had one or two glimpses of the sun; the moon has struggled vainly to show herself, and the stars have been visible about as often as the sun. Otherwise our chief out-of-door enjoyments this year have been of a wind and watery character. We had almost forgotten the mud, though. We have seen and felt that daily since the thaw set in on the morning of New Year's day. When will the vestries who rule the greater part of the Metropolis think it worth their while to keep the streets decently clean? We should have far greater reason to boast of this London of ours if its rulers—they of the City alone excepted—were just a little less incapable than they are—less officious in trumpery things, and more official in matters of importance. It is said the government of London is confided to somewhere about 11,000 persons, formed into all kinds of odds and ends of sections known officially as vestries, local boards of Health and Works, and the like. It occurs to us we might do better than this.

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Catching cold is seasonable, and follows appropriately enough our brief discourse about the weather and certain of its effects. Dr. Symes Thompson has recently been lecturing on this subject, or, as he puts it, with a becoming professional regard for the fitness of terms, "losing heat." We wear clothes, not to keep out the cold, but to keep in the heat. Yet not always successfully, for the cold siezes hold of us in spite of our wraps and comforters and clogs. The consequences are often distressing, and the aid of the medical man not seldom imperatively necessary. Dr. Thompson's advice, therefore, comes opportunely enough. Don't be frightened of the night air, says this worthy medicine man, it is purer, at all events in London, than the air we breathe by day. So keep the bedroom window a little open at night time. Avoid draughts and especially very quick currents of air. By all means, if suffering from cold, maintain an equal temperature in the room you occupy, or induce perspiration either by having a Turkish Bath or taking a nightcap of hot spirits and water—rum in preference—mixed with sugar and a little nutmeg. The last is perhaps the best suggestion of all. At all events, it would have suited Mr. Stiggins admirably. Had he been present and heard Dr. Thompson's lecture, doubtless he would have gone off then and there and caught cold, and have remained in a chronic state of suffering from the "loss of heat" ever since. A "go" of this particular vanity—we should have said remedy—hot, strong and warm, was exactly to his taste.

It seems fated that Paddington Station should be the scene of great jewel robberies. Our readers will remember that, towards the end of last year, Lady Dudley's jewel case was stolen almost from under the eyes, certainly from under the very feet of the attendant in charge of it. A few days since H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh was waiting at the same station for the train, which was to convey him on a visit to Lord and Lady Dudley, when, behold, H.R.H.'s jewel case disappeared in an equally mysterious manner. In this, as in the previous cases, the robber displayed great judgment and retired, leaving behind not the slightest trace of himself or his booty. Thus, the Duke set out on his visit without his jewels. Two questions naturally occur to us. How do these thieves get wind that royal and noble personages intend travelling by certain trains, and with their jewel cases? Are the Paddington officials sufficiently on the alert against the loose class of persons who notoriously infest all our most important railway stations? If so, how can the same kind of robbery have occurred twice within the space of a few weeks?

From other parts of the country there is little to record. There have been conferences of different kinds in different towns. The most noteworthy event, however, is the strike of colliers in South Wales. These differences are seriously to be deplored; they are costly, create a bad feeling between employers and the employed, and in nearly every case are disastrous to the families of the latter. Would it not be well to adopt some such plan as, we believe, is pursued in France, and erect a court or courts of arbitration or conciliation for the amicable settlement of all differences between masters and men? Those who would learn something of the working of these courts will find much valuable information thereon in Mr. Brassey's book on "Work and Wages." All we can do is to hope that the present strife may end as soon as possible.

In the literary world we have to chronicle the appearance of the fifth or Inkermann volume of Mr. Kinglake's "Invasion of the Crimea." As far as we have been able to judge, this is fully equal, in point of graphic description, to the volumes that have preceded it. It will certainly add largely to the already high reputation of the author.

A deputation, representing the Ancient Order of Foresters, waited on the Chancellor of Exchequer, on Wednesday, for the purpose of submitting for his consideration certain suggestions in connection with the Friendly Societies' Bill, which will be presented to Parliament this Session. A long discussion ensued, the Right Honourable Gentleman courteously promising that every possible consideration should be given to the several amendments suggested, and in some matters urging a conference of Foresters with Mr. Ludlow, the draftsman of the bill. The deputation were highly pleased with their reception.

Causes of fire, generally unaccountable, are often wrapt in mystery. All kinds of intelligent reasons are advanced on occasions of its outbreak, but the same result is usually arrived at—"No fellah can make it out." We must therefore regard Captain Shaw as little less than a wizard, if measured by this standard, when we inspect his statistics relative to this subject. Out of 1,573 fires, which occurred in the year 1874, he positively furnishes us, in great detail, with the causes of no less than 1,259, not including 18 which he reports as "doubtful." The different headings, under which he arranges the several causes of fire are somewhat curious in some cases. For instance, smokers will be alarmed to find that 36 fires occurred through "smoking tobacco." Anxious parents will be horrified to discover that under the two heads of "children playing with lucifers," and "children playing with fire," no less than 62 are accounted for. It will cause serious alarm to householders generally that "escape of gas" was the origin of 44, and "defective flues" of 62. The heads under which the greatest number of fires are found are, "candles" 218, and "sparks from fire" 147, though the climax is reached at 296, the number of those "not accounted for." The rescue of life on these occasions is the most gratifying part of the report, and reflects the highest credit on the courage and skill of the Fire Brigade. Thus, out of 157 people in peril from fire during the past year, the very large proportion of 134 were saved by the Brigade. We find that one of these heroes has himself saved the lives of 17, whilst a second has done that service to 11. Statistics show a favourable progress in all the branches of this most useful and praiseworthy institution. We wish it all the encouragement it so richly deserves.

Having received universal tokens of affection and loyalty throughout the entire length of his progress in his new kingdom, King Alphonso has now reached the army of the North. We hear of him at Saragossa on Wednesday last; and the telegrams inform us that the respite lately allowed the Carlists will cease on the King's arrival. We may look, therefore, for some important results, when we regard the enthusiasm which the restored monarchy has instilled into the army. Carlist affairs do not seem to be "looking up" just now either. The sinews of war would appear not to be forthcoming; there is some little difficulty in monetary affairs. Bankers do not like the security, and object to advance further sums. This might facilitate matters for the new king very considerably. For how can soldiers, arms, or ammunition be obtained now-a-days without the "needful?" We hope that a fresh difficulty may not so soon be imposed upon the youthful monarch, as the *Gustav* affair seems to promise. German honour—Bismarck's honour—must be satisfied; no doubt will be; but we hope that "busy" statesmen will advocate no indecent haste in the matter of reparation, however well deserved it may be. There may be some slight tinge of disappointment, perhaps, in the fact that a king has been called to the throne without the permission of Germany; but we trust the young monarch will be allowed just a little breathing time to satisfy all parties.

"Prevention is better than cure"—cheaper, too, no doubt—in every way more desirable. Are we to regard this as the maxim which Europe accepts when we look into the mighty warlike preparations she is now making? We have arrived at a pitch when armies are counted by *millions*, when countries present the aspect of one huge military establishment. By the passing of the Landsturm Bill, every German between the ages of 17 and 42, who does not already belong to the Army of Reserve, is liable to be called out in the case of an actual, or even a threatened invasion. This will place at the disposal of Germany a total available force of 2,800,000 men. May be the irritable temperament of France, writhing under her late discomfiture and loss of territory, and "eager for the fray," on the one hand, and the gigantic preparations of Russia on the other, account in some way for the tone of German military politics. France and Russia are apparently on very friendly terms. They hem in Germany between them, and their united forces are said to number over 5,000,000 men, viz., Russia 3¼ millions, and France about 1,750,000. In addition to these great powers, we find Austria, Italy, Denmark, Holland and Switzerland arming to the teeth. What does it all mean? And what is England doing? It becomes more apparent than ever that she will never be able to take any independent action in Continental affairs again, though she might serve as a very useful contingent to a great power. The total

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available force of England would not amount to one-tenth of that of France, or one-twentieth of the host of Germany. She must be content then to leave war alone, and follow peaceful pursuits. Thanks to her insular position, she is virtually secure from invasion. Further, she owns a navy which she is justly proud in thinking would render her position unassailable, even if such a remote contingency were threatening.

We wish we were able to offer more satisfactory intelligence to our readers of the health of Prince Leopold. His condition, though apparently much the same, does not show altogether hopeful signs of a speedy recovery. We read that hæmorrhage has returned, which the *London Medical Record* regards as a very ominous sign in ordinary cases of typhoid fever. We are glad to learn, however, that the authority just quoted regards hæmorrhage in this case, not as proceeding from the fever, but attributes it to a natural tendency to hæmorrhage in the Prince. Its ill-effect, then, will be measured by the extent of debility it may produce, and, having regard to the milder weather now prevailing, we hope for some improvement at an early date.

Bro. S. B. Oldham, Secretary to the Girls and Boys' School in Ireland has been appointed Deputy Grand Secretary and Treasurer to the Grand Lodge of Ireland, in place of Bro. C. J. Walmisby, lately resigned.

A Masonic Temple is to be solemnly inaugurated at Rome next month. It is understood that the occasion will be one of very great pomp.

We have great pleasure in announcing that on Wednesday last Bro. I. Edwards was unanimously elected to the office of Town Clerk of St. Albans—a post rendered vacant by the lamented decease of Bro. T. W. Blagg. Bro. Edwards was also appointed Registrar of the County Court.

A very pleasant gathering came off at the Criterion, the other evening, on the occasion of a complimentary dinner to Mr. Peter Laird, the late Assistant Secretary at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, which post he had filled from the first opening of the building. During his tenure of office, Mr. Laird was deservedly popular with all classes, and his retirement was a general source of regret. The estimation in which he was held by a large circle of friends found a still more practical expression, on this occasion, in the presentation of a handsome testimonial, consisting of a purse of gold, which was suitably acknowledged.

Bro. E. P. Albert P.M. and Secretary 188, and Proxy Master, Isle of Mauritius has been presented with a very elegant medal, artistically enamelled in colours, as a mark of honour from the Canongate and Leith Lodge, No. 5, Scotland.

The story of Whittington and his Cat, no doubt became familiar to most of our readers in the early days when a visit to the Pantomime was one of the events of the season. The following, from a footnote to Mr. Riley's admirable preface to his Edition of *Liber Albus*, may possess, therefore, some interest. In the 14th and beginning of the 15th centuries, trading, or buying and selling at a profit, was known to the more educated classes under the French name of "Achat," which in England was written, and not improbably pronounced "Acat." To "Acat" of this nature Whittington was indebted for his wealth, and as, in time, French was gradually displaced by modern English, the meaning of the word probably became lost, and thus furnished an opportunity to some inventive genius, at a much later period, for building up a *new* story on the double meaning of an *old* and effete word. Mr. Riley further tells us that contracting was also known, in the 14th century as "Acat," and to "Acat" of this description Whittington may also have owed some of his wealth. Other solutions have been offered, and among them a suggestion, in a spirit of irony, by Foote, in his *Nabob*, that Whittington owed his wealth to the employment of the coal ships known as "Cats," is deserving of notice.

Bro. Louis Beck's Fourth Annual Ball will take place at Willis's Rooms, St. James's, on Thursday, 11th February. An efficient body of Stewards has consented to act on that occasion. Tickets can be obtained at Bro. Beck's, 1A Adam Street, Strand. Bro. Jarvis is the M.C.

On Tuesday evening last a very successful Masonic Ball was given in the Royal Pavilion, Brighton.

We observe that the death-rate has assumed much more satisfactory dimensions during the past week. We find, by the Registrar-General's Returns, that the mortality in the 20 English towns shows the lower average of 32 per 1,000, 34 in Edinburgh, 42 in Dublin, and 44 in Glasgow. The rate at Bradford is the lowest, viz., 22, while Manchester is unhappily credited with the highest, 42. In London the rate declined to 29 per 1,000. Altogether we may consider the returns as satisfactory.

On Monday a Grand Conference was held at Birmingham for the purpose of concerting measures throughout the Midland Counties for the defence of the Church. The Earl of Dartmouth presided, and letters were read from the Earl of Harrowby and Mr. Newdegate, expressing both regret at their inability to be present and entire sympathy with the objects of the meeting. Amongst the speakers may be mentioned none other than Lord Lyttelton, a prominent member of the Liberal party, who was heartily congratulated by the chairman on the taste and judgment he displayed in handling the question. A large and influential meeting was also held in the evening of the same day in the Town Hall, when certain resolutions on the same subject were offered and accepted.

For some days past a Trades' Union Congress has been sitting at Liverpool. Many subjects of interest were discussed, and among those who addressed the meeting may be mentioned Mr. Plimsoll, M.P., in whose favour a resolution was passed, expressing the complete sympathy of the Congress with the honourable gentleman in his efforts on behalf of our mercantile seamen. Mr. Plimsoll's remarks naturally related to the subject he has so strenuously taken in hand. A resolution was subsequently agreed to, that a memorial should be presented to the Prime Minister, entreating that the attention of the Government should be given to the subject of the unseaworthiness of our ships. Several noteworthy persons connected with Trades' Unions were present, including the honourable member for the Hole-in-the-wall, Mr. Odger, of Republican notoriety.

INSTRUCTION.—The Installation Ceremony will be rehearsed in the Confidence Lodge of Instruction, White Hart Tavern, Abchurch-lane, Cannon-street, on Wednesday evening, the 27th inst., at 7.30, by Bro. John Constable W.M. 185.

Illustrated Guide for Amateur Gardeners. Spring 1875. Daniel Bros. Norwich.—Contains, among other matters, an excellent "Kitchen Garden Calendar," which will be found serviceable on the all important questions of sowing, planting, treatment and selection of the best varieties. Then follows an illustrated table of the various sorts of vegetables most in use, with notes to guide the amateur in his choice of qualities. Next comes the "Flower Garden Calendar," similarly treated to its companion of the Kitchen Garden, and followed in like manner by a long catalogue of plants and seeds, with the addition of sundry suggestions on the purchase and arrangement of plants in borders and beds. A description of several new sorts of vegetables, and sundry new inventions for the greenhouse, concludes this admirable guide, which we accordingly recommend to the notice of any among our readers who have a taste for gardening.

A Wondrous Tale, and other Poems, by ST. MARIE. London: Charing Cross Publishing Company.

THESE little poems, which are all of a serious cast, are evidently written by a 'prentice hand. They exhibit a highly moral and religious tone, and are, no doubt, the work of an earnest soul, who seeks to alleviate human woe, and speak a word of hope to the fallen. In view of the evident intention of the author, we shall restrain our critical instinct, and merely advise her to try again, and yet again, before she ventures upon publishing any additional rhymes.

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DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be greatly obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the kingdom would favour us with a copy of their summonses each time of issue.

SATURDAY, 23rd JANUARY.

Audit Committee, Boys' School, at 3.
149—Peace, Masonic Rooms, Meltham.
1297—West Kent, Forest Hill Hotel, Forest Hill, Lewisham.

MONDAY, 25th JANUARY.

4—Royal Somerset House and Inverness, Freemasons' Hall.
95—Castle L of Harmony, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.
99—Old Kings Arms, Freemasons' Hall.
79—Pythagorean, Ship Tavern, Royal Hill, Greenwich.
183—Unity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
902—Burgoyne, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
905—De Gray and Ripon, Caledonian Hotel, Adelphi.
R. A. 25—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 186—Joppa, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
827—St. John's, Masonic Temple, Halifax-road, Dewsbury, Yorks.
R. A. 302—Charity, Masonic Hall, Bradford, Mon.

TUESDAY, 26th JANUARY.

Audit Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
14—Tuscan, Freemasons' Hall.
92—Moira, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
141—Faith, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
145—Prudent Brethren, Freemasons' Hall.
188—Industry, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, Basinghall-street.
206—Israel, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
259—Prince of Wales, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.
1158—Southern Star, Montpelier Tavern, Walworth.
1196—Urban, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's-gate.
1348—Ebury, Morpeth Arms Tavern, Millbank.
R. A. 21—Cyrus, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
R. A. 45—Old Union, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
648—St. James', Masonic Hall, Halifax, Yorks.

WEDNESDAY, 27th JANUARY.

Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons.
3—Antiquity, Freemasons' Hall.
212—Euphrates, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, Basinghall-street.
507—United Pilgrims, Horns Tavern, Kennington.
753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood.
784—High Cross, Seven Sisters' Tavern, Page Green, Tottenham.
828—Temperance in the East, Private Assembly Rooms, 6 Newby-place, Poplar.
1056—Victoria, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
220—Huddersfield, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield.
304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
780—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Cleckheaton, Yorks.
1383—Ryburn, Masonic Rooms, Sowerby Bridge, Yorks.
R. A. 367—Moravian, Masonic Hall, Shipley.

THURSDAY, 28th JANUARY.

General Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
22—Neptune, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.
34—Mount Moriah, Freemasons' Hall.
60—Peace and Harmony, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
65—Prosperity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.
86—Grenadiers, Freemasons' Hall.
90—Shakespeare, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
871—Royal Oak, White Swan Tavern, High-street, Deptford.
R. A. 177—Domatic, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
R. A. 534—Polish National, Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 706—William Preston, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
815—Craven, Devonshire Hotel, Skipton.
904—Phœnix, Ship Hotel, Westgate, Rotherham.
971—Trafalgar, Commercial-street, Batley, Yorks.
R. A. 307—Good Intent, White Horse, Hebden Bridge, near Halifax.
K. T. Precep.—Fearnley, Dewsbury.

FRIDAY, 29th JANUARY.

R. A. 134—Caledonian, Ship and Turtle Tavern, Leadenhall-street.
R. A. 243—Magdalen, Town Hall, Doncaster.

SATURDAY, 30th JANUARY.

1463—Wharncliffe, Rose and Crown Hotel, Penistone, Yorks.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—340—St. Clair, Freemasons' Hall.
TUESDAY—141—Defensive Band, Alexander Hall, Cockburn-street.
" R. A. 40—Naval and Military, Freemasons' Hall.
WEDNESDAY—112—St. John, Fisher-row, Royal Hotel, Musselburgh.
THURSDAY—302—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall.
FRIDAY—233—Trafalgar, 54 Bernard-street, Leith.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Grand Stewards' Lodge.—The installation meeting of the above Lodge, restricted to Present and Past Grand Stewards, was held on Wednesday, the 20th inst., Bro. Waters occupying the chair, supported by the officers and Bros. F. Binckes (Secretary Boys' School), H. Norman, Scott, G. S. States, Pankhurst, Edmonds, Breary, Richards, White, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. J. R. Stedwell P.G.S. and P.G.J.W. (Middlesex), was duly installed into the chair. He then appointed his officers for the ensuing year, viz.—Bros. E. March S.W., Hockley J.W. and Secretary, R. Spencer Treasurer, Baxter S.D., Walsh J.D., J. E. Saunders P.G.D. I.G., F. Richardson D.C., W. Watson W.S., and Rawles Tyler. Bro. White P.G.S. having announced his intention to act as Steward at the forthcoming anniversary of the Girls' School, the sum of five guineas was placed on his list from the funds of the Lodge. The following presents to the Lodge were announced, viz.—a very elegant square and compass, by Bro. R. Spencer; Bro. Stedwell W.M., the columns; Bro. Norman, the cushion; Bro. Walters, the ballot-box; and Bro. Bucker, the rough and perfect ashlar. Votes of thanks were accorded to those brethren, which were carried unanimously. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to the usual banquet, which was provided by Bro. Francatelli, and superintended by Bro. Knill. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given by the W.M. The toast of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as Grand Master was received with great enthusiasm, as well as that of the Earl of Carnarvon Provincial Grand Master, and Lord Skermersdale Deputy Grand Master. Bro. E. March S.W., in a pertinent speech, in returning thanks, regretted the absence of two members of the Lodge, who were members of Grand Lodge, namely—Bros. Rucker and J. E. Saunders, who were prevented from being present by important duties. Bro. Waters I.P.M., in proposing the toast of the W.M., said how pleased he was to see him in the chair. He was one who was qualified to fill it; his heart and soul were in the cause of Freemasonry, and he was sure it was the wish of every brother present. (Cheers.) The W.M., in reply, said he had to thank Bro. Waters for his kind expressions; it was a great pleasure to be Master of the Grand Stewards' Lodge, and he would be only too happy to render any assistance during his year of office to the Lodge. The toast of the visitors was responded to by Bros. White and Goldsmith. Bro. Waters returned thanks for the Past Masters in a capital speech. He said that he hoped, in seeing so numerous an assemblage of the brethren present, that they might, in the course of time, aspire to so eminent a position as that he now occupied—a Past Master of the Grand Stewards' Lodge. (Cheers.) The toasts of the Treasurer (Bro. Spencer) and Secretary followed. The W.M., in proposing the toast of the officers of the Lodge, stated he was proud to see such as those he had selected, and he hoped, on a future occasion, to see them in the same position he now occupied. Bro. March S.W. returned thanks for the toast, and pertinently said, it was merely a suggestion, that he hoped would be carried out, that the Grand Stewards for the year should be invited to visit the Grand Stewards' Lodge; it would not only create a reciprocal feeling, but would add materially in augmenting their numbers. The W.M. then proposed the toast of "The Charities." He was pleased to see one of the members of his Lodge present, Bro. Binckes, who represented a great and glorious institution—The Boys' School. Bro. Binckes, in response, gave the brethren the numbers of the boys and girls who were being educated and clothed, also those of the aged who were provided for, but he also stated that there were 525 candidates now waiting for admission into the three charities at the next elections. Bro. White followed, and hoped the brethren and their families would visit the various institutions, for they would then see how the amounts given would be thankfully received and faithfully applied. The Tyler's toast was then given. The brethren were entertained by the beautiful singing of Bros. Carter, Lister and Lawler jun., who gave some capital songs and glees; Bros. Edmonds and Baxter also contributing to the harmony.

Medina Lodge, No. 35.—The annual meeting of this Lodge, which is the most ancient in the Province of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, was held on Thursday last, at the Lodge Rooms, High Street, Cowes. The brethren assembled at about 3 p.m., for the purpose of assisting in the installation of Bro. T. W. Faulkner. Bro. Faulkner has already filled the chair on one or two occasions, but the brethren knowing his zest for Freemasonry again selected him as the Master for the year 1875. The Lodge having been opened in the three degrees, the ceremony was carried out by Bro. J. G. Wheeler, the retiring Master, assisted by the other P.M.'s of the Lodge. The Master having been duly installed, proceeded to the appointment of his officers. The business at the Lodge having been concluded, the brethren retired to the banquet, at the Fountain Hotel. The chair was taken by the W.M., and the vice-chair by Bro. J. Hall Smith P.M. and S.W., after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and were well received.

Mount Lebanon Lodge, No. 73.—The installation ceremony in connection with this distinguished Lodge took place on Tuesday night, at Bro. Spencer's, Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge. Members and visitors, numbering together upwards of a hundred, assembled upon the occasion. They included several provincial grand officers, a large number of Past Masters, Wardens, Deacons, and other officers of the Craft, each and all of whom wore the full insignia of their respective offices. The Lodge met at 5 o'clock, and Past Master Harris, Treasurer, performed the ceremony of installing Bro. Isaac John Hooper Wilkins Master of the Lodge for the ensuing year. At the conclusion of the business the company adjourned to the banquet hall, were covers were laid for 120 guests. The newly installed Master presided, supported, on his right, by an initiate, and on his left, by Past Master Harris. There were also present, at the cross-table, Bro. Colonel Burdett, Provincial Grand Master of Middlesex; Bro. T. J. Sabine, Provincial Grand Deacon of Middlesex; Bro. W. Smeed, Provincial Grand Warden of Middlesex; Bro. James Cattley Mason (Mason, Cattley and Co.); and Bro. Lazarus, Past Grand Warden of Wilts, who, in responding for the visitors, took the opportunity of producing his certificate of a Master, which was dated 23rd January 1825, and signed by Frederick Augustus (the Duke of Sussex), who was, at that time, Grand Master. After the service of an excellent dinner by Bro. Joseph Spencer, the "Queen and the Craft," and the other masonic toasts, were proposed by the Worshipful Master, who, in the course of the evening, presented, in the name of the Lodge, a magnificent jewel to the immediate Past Master, Bro. J. L. Dussek, unanimously voted out of the Lodge funds, supplemented by the private subscriptions of the brethren. The toasts were interspersed with songs and glees, under the direction of Bro. John Read. The evening was one of the most successful of the successful meetings of the Mount Lebanon Lodge.

St. John's Lodge, No. 90.—The installation meeting of this

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Lodge was held at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate Street, on Monday, 11th inst.; there were present Bros. Rumford P.M. W.M., Wetherell S.W., Snelling J.W., J. Elese P.M. Treasurer, J. Griffen P.M. Secretary, Venn S.D., W. Stormer J.D., Smith I.G., W. R. Stephens P.M. W.S., Bro. G. P. Griffin P.M., McDougal P.M., S. C. Hadley G.A.D. C.P.M., Bros. W. Rathbone, T. Meyrick, J. D. Allison, W. Brown, W. Colpoys, J. L. Cross, J. Margetsen, P. A. Coard, J. Pearce, S. Henderson, G. Thorne, J. Kelsey; there were several visitors present, amongst whom were the following, Bro. N. D. Benjumea, of a Foreign Lodge, A. J. Bristow No. 14, C. Challen and E. M. McDougal No. 3, E. W. Plowright P.G.S., E. Dow 821, L. Rumford, C. E. Eglese 1261, W. I. Spicer 579, F. J. Foord 424, W. Burgess 404. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read, and confirmed. The Lodge was opened in the second degree, and the W.M. elect, Bro. Wetherell, was presented to the W.M. to receive at his hands the honour of installation. The Lodge was opened in the third degree, and the W.M.'s having retired, Bro. Wetherell was installed into the chair of K.S., according to ancient custom, the M.M. having re-entered the Lodge, and saluted the W.M., the Lodge was closed in first and second degree, and the officers were appointed and invested as follows:—Bro. Snelling S.W., Venn J.W., Eglese Treasurer, G. P. Griffin Secretary, W. Stormer S.D., Smith J.D. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet.

St. John's Lodge, Banff.—The annual meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, the 14th inst., for the purpose of transacting the ordinary business, and for the election of office-bearers. After the business of the Lodge was over, the brethren dined together in their hall, Brother D. M'Culloch presiding. A very pleasant and harmonious evening was spent.

Lodge of Justice, No. 147.—The installation meeting of this Lodge, was held at the White Swan Tavern, High-street, Deptford, on Wednesday, the 13th inst. There were about 50 brethren present. Bro. C. G. Dilley W.M. in the chair assisted by Bro. J. Roper S.W., Bro. Speight S.D., Church I.G., Past Masters G. Bolton, T. Percival, J. Lightfoot. R. Batt, J. Patte, J. Cavel, H. Sadler, G. Chapman Secretary, and H. Bartlett Treasurer. Bros. J. J. Hutchins, G. Waterman, T. Partington, J. W. Freeman, G. Bray, J. L. Doust, J. H. Skelton, C. Porter, N. Clarke, J. Endicott, B. Goodman, S. Hurdle, J. Chappell, W. Kennett, T. Mott, G. Dukes, W. Ingram, J. J. Pitt, T. Miles, and several others. The Lodge being opened, and the minutes confirmed, a ballot was taken for Mr. T. Clarke, R. R. Banks, and H. C. Freeman for initiation. The Lodge was opened in second degree, and Bro. G. Bray, having answered the usual questions, was entrusted and retired. The Lodge was opened in third degree, and Bro. Bray was raised to that degree, the Lodge was resumed in second degree, and Bro. John Roper was presented for installation. The Lodge was resumed in third degree, and Bro. Roper, having been installed, and the Lodge closed down to the first degree, the W.M. appointed and invested his officers as follows:—Bros. Andrew P.M. S.W., Speight J.W., Church S.D., Waterman J.D., Partington I.G., Past Masters H. Bartlett, and G. Chapman were re-invested as Treasurer and Secretary. The W.M., Bro. Roper, then initiated Messrs. J. Clarke, R. R. Banks, and H. C. Freeman into the Order. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a most excellent banquet, provided by Mrs. Porter, the hostess. The following visitors were present:—Bro. H. Moore P.M. 1155, of which Lodge Bro. Roper is an officer. Bros. S. Hose S.W. 1155, J. Carver P.M. 1155, J. Welstead D.C. 1155, Burton 933, G. Brown P.M. 169. The usual Masonic toasts were given. Bro. H. Moore responded for the visitors, and, in returning thanks, remarked that in the course of his Masonic experience, which extended over some ten years, he had never heard a W.M., on the night of his installation, perform the ceremony of initiation in a more able and impressive manner than Bro. Roper had done that evening. The brethren having spent a most pleasant evening, departed, highly satisfied with their enjoyment.

Bedford Lodge, No. 157.—The members of this excellent old Lodge met on the 8th instant, and disposed of a large amount of business, the W.M., Bro. Briggs, initiating, passing and raising several gentlemen and brethren into the various degrees in a very able manner. Bro. P.M. Stacey installed Bro. James Lear Drew into the W.M.'s chair. The W.M. made appointments to the several offices as follow:—Bro. Walton S.W.; Bro. Poole J.W.; Br. Creak S.D. There was a good muster of P.M.'s, amongst whom we noticed Bros. Cubitt, Millis, Holland, Hills, Smith and Brander. Among the large attendance of visitors were Bros. Farthing W.M.; Boyd P.M.; Beard P.M.; Kepling P.M.; Pope P.M.; Darke P.M.; Nicholls P.M.; Hillis P.M.; J. R. Stacey P.M. and T. Butler P.W. The usual P.M.'s jewel was unanimously awarded to the W.M. A banquet followed, the W.M. presiding. The evening's entertainment was much enhanced by the singing of Madame Constantin, Mr. G. T. Carter and Mr. T. Beale, Mr. J. C. Dunster presiding at the pianoforte.

St. James's Union Lodge, No. 180.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was celebrated on Tuesday the 12th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Bro. Gallico W.M. occupied the chair. W. C. Parsons S.W., Gillard J.W. The officers and P.M.'s Smethett, Bubb, Cameron, Sedgwick, J. H. Stacey, Herf, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. Ladbury was raised to the third degree, and Bro. Hasper to the second degree, and Messrs. Thompson, Pavett, Rasco and Brestgis, were initiated into the Order. Bro. W. C. Parsons S.W., who had been unanimously elected at the former meeting, was then installed into the chair by the retiring W.M. Bro. Gallico. Salutations according to ancient form were then accorded to the W.M., who invested his officers as follows:—Bros. Gallico I.P.M., Gillard S.W., A. Annett (secretary L. V. Asylum), J. W. Robinson P.M. Treasurer, H. A. Stacey P.M. Secretary, Pilling S.D., S. Smith J.D., Harrisson I.G., J. Stacey P.M. D.C., Bros. Herf and Farwig Stewards, and Gilbert Tyler. The W.M., in feeling terms, announced the death of Bro. Archard P.M. and Bro. Thorn. The W.M. then stated he, Bro. H. A. Stacey P.M. and Bro. Cameron W.M., had signified their intention to act as stewards at the forthcoming festivals. A very elegant Gold Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. Gallico I.P.M. by the W.M., for the able manner he had discharged his duties during his year of office. Bro. Gallico having replied, the brethren adjourned to the Crown Room, where every accommodation was made for them by Bro. Francatelli. A sumptuous banquet was provided, and 109 brethren sat down to partake of it. The W.M. gave the usual toasts, both Loyal and Masonic, and Bros. John Boyd P.G.P. and C. A. Cottebrune P.G.P. responded in connection with the toast of the Past Grand Officers. The toast of the W.M. was proposed by Bro. Gallico I.M.P., he said the W.M., in occupying that position, was one who would see the working carried out to the satisfaction of every brother in the Lodge. The W.M. suitably responded. The toast of the visitors was replied to by the P.P.G.O." and Bro. Bayfield P.M. 511. The toast of the Masonic Charities could not have found a more eloquent speaker than Bro. F. Binckes, whose powerful advocacy of that noble charity deserves great praise, and commanded the attention of the numerous brethren present. The toasts of the Wardens and Officers followed, and a delightful evening was passed, enlivened by harmony. The W.M. announced that the 13th annual ball, in connection with this Lodge, would take place on the 4th February, under the able presidency of the W.M., Bro. Parsons and an efficient body of stewards would lend him valuable assistance.

Lodge of Tranquillity, No. 185.—This Lodge met on the 18th inst., at Cannon-street Hotel, E.C. Bro. John Constable W.M. presided. The chief business of the evening consisted of the election of Worshipful Master, Treasurer and Tyler for the ensuing year. The ballot resulted in favour of worthy Bro. John Ross, the J.W., as W.M. The voting was unanimous, and the announcement received with acclamation. Bro. Ross briefly thanked the brethren for their goodwill, and promised to emulate the example of his predecessor. Bro. John Peartree was re-elected honorary Treasurer. He thanked the brethren for their confidence; for the sixteenth time they had thought proper to entrust him with the honorary and honourable post, and assured them that such zeal and assiduity as was in his power to bestow, would ever be employed to the advantage of the Lodge, as well as the promotion of its interest and prosperity. Bro. Vesper was re-elected Tyler. Bro. Sydney P.M. proposed that £10 10s should be voted from the Lodge funds to purchase a suitable testimonial to Bro. John Constable upon his retirement from office, for his eminent services during the time the direction of the Lodge was under his care. This was not only unanimously carried, but a committee was at once formed for the purpose of collecting subscriptions to supplement the gift of the Lodge with something tangible, which should represent and express the high esteem in which that brother is held by every one of its members. At the conclusion of the Lodge business, refreshment was served under the superintendence of Bro. Silver. Ample justice was done to a very excellent repast. The toasts were of the usual character. The health of the W.M. elect was proposed by the presiding W.M. in feeling terms. Firm friends from boyhood, they have kept together, step by step, in Masonry. May such friendship never be severed. Bro. Saul Solomon P.M. proposed the health of the W.M., and in glowing terms recited the excellent qualities of Bro. Constable, and the great services he had rendered to the Lodge. For, upon his entrance among them, they were in a rather precarious condition, but mainly owing to his unparalleled energy and zeal, he may be said to have caused its resuscitation. Through his instrumentality a number of highly respectable brethren have come amongst us. New blood creates new sinews, and energies, and encourages a hope for the brightest prospects in the future. May the Lodge for many years enjoy the advantage of his valuable assistance. Bro. Constable, in his brief response, assured the brethren that his best endeavours would always be at the service of the Lodge.

Abercorn Lodge, No. 299.—The installation banquet was held on Thursday, the 14th inst., in the Beresford Arms Hotel. The chair was occupied by Bro. William Girvan W.M., and during a portion of the evening by Bro. G. H. Smith. The toast of "The Queen" having been given and duly honoured, that of "The M.W. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales G.M. of England," was given, and enthusiastically received. A song (specially composed for the occasion, by a brother of the Lodge), entitled, "From every Lodge in England," was sung by Bro. Nelson, all those present joining in the chorus. In responding to the toast, the R.W. Maxwell C. Close (representative from G.L. of England at the G.L. Ireland) congratulated the Craft on the two practical answers which, within the last few months, have been given to those who charged Freemasons with being an illegal and disloyal body. These answers were, the acceptance by the heir apparent to the throne of the position of G.M. of England, and by the Queen's viceroy in this country of a similar office in Irish Masonry. (Applause.) These events, so recent in the history of the Brotherhood, established the perfect harmony and intimate union between the Craft and the Crown, which should be a source of deep satisfaction to every brother in the kingdom.

Royal Sussex Lodge, No. 342, Portsea.—The installation of Bro. Richard Newland (member of the Portsmouth Town Council) as the W.M. of this Lodge took place on Wednesday, the 20th inst., the ceremony being ably conducted by the retiring W.M. (Bro. J. T. Craven). The following brethren were afterwards appointed and invested as officers for the ensuing twelve months, Bro. Craven I.P.M.,

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Bro. Turney S.W., Bro. H. J. Gray J.W., Bro. Redward P.M. Treasurer, Bro. Willson P.M. and Bro. S. Edwards Secretaries, Bro. W. Payne S.D. The banquet was provided by Bro. Geo. Bond, of the Castle Hotel, Southsea, and the following toasts were duly honoured. The Queen and the Craft, the M.W. Grand Master H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and the M.W. Pro. Grand Master the Earl of Carnarvon; the R.W. Deputy Grand Master Lord Skelmersdale, and the Officers of Grand Lodge; the R.W. Pro. Grand Master Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., and Officers of P. G. Lodge, the W.M.'s and representatives of neighbouring Lodges; the visitors; the Worshipful Master, the installing Master (Bro. Craven), the P.M.'s of the Royal Sussex Lodge, the Officers of the Royal Sussex Lodge.

St. Peter's Lodge, No. 442, Peterborough.—The Festival of St. John was celebrated on Thursday, the 14th inst. There was a good attendance of the brethren, and several visitors. Bro. Buckle (Pr. G.S.) presented the patent of office to Bro. Butler Wilkins, of Northampton, who has recently been appointed D.Pr.G.M. by the Pr. G.M. his Grace the Duke of Manchester. Bro. Wilkins thanked the brethren for having nominated him to the office, and for giving him so hearty a reception, and Bro. E. Vergette sen. then installed the W.M. elect, Bro. R. H. Griffin.

Mersey Lodge, No. 477, Birkenhead.—On Thursday, the 14th inst., the annual installation was held at the Masonic Chambers, Argyle Street, where there was an attendance of upwards of 100 members and visitors. The Lodge was opened by Bro. R. Gracie, and after the minutes had been confirmed, Bro. D. Fraser was installed W.M. by Bro. W. Bulley, who is one of the P.G. Wardens of the Province of Cheshire.

Portsmouth Lodge, No. 487.—There was a large attendance of members of this Lodge at the meeting on Thursday evening, the 14th inst., on the occasion of the installation of Bro. Thomas Moore as W.M. for the ensuing year. The present position of the Lodge is eminently satisfactory, and the W.M. is to be congratulated on entering upon his year of office under the most favourable auspices. On Thurday evening a gratifying and pleasing event took place—the presentation of a handsome gold P.M.'s jewel to the retiring W.M. (Bro. J. Maltby), under whose rule the Portsmouth Lodge has flourished to an unprecedented extent. The jewel bears the following inscription:—"Presented to Bro. John Maltby P.M. P.P.G.S.B., Hants and Isle of Wight, by the brethren of the Portsmouth Lodge, No. 487, in recognition of his able and valuable services as W.M. 1874." The presentation was made by Bro. G. S. Lancaster P.M. Prov. J. G. Warden, who referred to the services rendered to the Lodge by the recipient. Bro. Maltby suitably acknowledged the gift. The usual formalities having been gone through, Bro. Moore was then installed as W.M. of the Lodge, in the presence of the following W.M.'s and P.M.'s:—Bros. G. S. Lancaster P.J.G.W., M. E. Frost P.G. Treasurer, Ogburn P.P.G.W., Forbes P.P.G.W. (Essex), J. Cornelius-Wheeler W.M. 257, Craven W.M. 342, G. Felton Lancaster W.M. 203, A. L. Emanuel W.M. 1069, Sir John Alleyne, Bart. W.M. 1324, J. Maltby, A. Cudlipp, T. Batchelor, E. Groves, E. G. Holbrook, S. R. Ellis, and Sleeman. The ceremony was ably conducted by Bro. Frost, to whom, at a later period of the evening, the cordial thanks of the Lodge were tendered. The W.M. appointed the following officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. J. Maltby I.P.M., E. Bunting S.W., G. Bond J.W., G. S. Lancaster P.M. Treasurer, M. E. Frost P.M. and J. Astridge Secretaries, R. W. Beale S.D., C. Vine J.D., A. German I.G., A. Cudlipp P.M. D.C., R. Osborne Organist, G. Sherman and J. Moore Stewards, J. Watson and J. Exell Tylers. It was resolved, on the motion of Bro. Frost, seconded by Bro. Astridge, that the best thanks of the Lodge be tendered to Bro. Maltby, for his services during the past year, and that the same be recorded on the minutes. Upwards of 50 of the brethren subsequently partook of an excellent banquet in the dining-room of the Hall, at which the W.M. presided. The menu reflected great credit on Mr. Butler, the caterer. The W.M. proposed the first toast, "The Queen and the Craft," which was duly honoured. "The Grand Master H.R.H. the Prince of Wales" was proposed, in suitable terms, by Bro. Maltby. Bro. Sir John Alleyne gave "The M.W. Prov. Grand Master the Earl of Carnarvon." The toast of "The Deputy Grand Master (Lord Skelmersdale) and the Officers of the Grand Lodge" was entrusted to Bro. Cudlipp, who spoke of the rapid strides Freemasonry had made of late years, and alluded to the grand principles of the Craft. Several other toasts followed, the health of the Worshipful Master being received with great enthusiasm. In responding, Bro. Moore assured the brethren that it would be his earnest endeavour to carry out the duties of his office to the satisfaction of the Lodge, and with credit to himself. Bro. Ogburn responded for "The Visitors," and gave "The I.P.M. and P.M.'s of the Lodge," which was acknowledged by Bro. Maltby. Bro. Bunting, as Senior Warden, responded for "The Officers of the Lodge," and promised the Worshipful Master, on their behalf, all the aid in their power during his year of office.

Wellington Lodge, No. 784, Deal.—The installation of the W.M., Bro. John Edward Apps P.M. into the chair of K.S. took place at the Lodge Room, Assembly Rooms, Park Street, Deal, on Thursday, the 14th inst. The Lodge having been duly opened in the first and second degrees, by Bro. A. E. Ralph P.M., in the absence of Bro. J. M. Browning, W.M., through illness, the ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. A. E. Ralph P.M. P.G.J.D. of Kent. We may remark that Bro. Ralph is a young and rising Mason, whom we hope to see make his way in the Craft. After the interesting ceremony of installing the W.M. elect into the chair of K.S., the W.M. proceeded to appoint and invest his officers for the ensuing year, as follows: Bro. Capt. Woon R.M., S.W.; Bro. H. S. Goodall J.W.; Bro. J. E. Apps Treasurer; Bro. Rev. C. E. S. Woolmer Chaplain; Bro. W. M. Cavell P.M. P.P.G.S.D. Secretary; Bro. W. H. Hayman S.D.; Bro. F. Fitch J.D.; Bro. T. Paul D.C.; Bro. J. Doorne P.M. Organist; Bro. Tyson Stubbs I.G.; Bro. T. J. Woodruff S.; Bro. W. J. A. Norris Tyler, &c. The Lodge being closed, the brethren repaired to the banqueting room adjoining, where an excellent repast had been prepared by the worthy hostess of the Royal Hotel, Mrs. Allen, the tables being beautifully decorated with choice plants and flowers. The usual loyal and patriotic toasts having been given, the healths of the visitors were responded to by Bro. R. J. Emmerson P.M. P.P., G. J. W. Kent, H. C. Fuhr P.M. 1028, &c. The Chaplin, Rev. C. E. Shirley Woolmer, in responding to his health, delivered an eloquent oration on Craft Masonry, showing its advantages, and at the same time gave a graphic description of early Masonry and its origin in England. Bros. Doorne, Emmerson, Bird, Woon, Dow, Mason, &c. having favoured the company with some excellent singing and music, a most agreeable evening was brought to a close.

Gosport Lodge, No. 903.—The installation of Bro. G. Felton Lancaster, as W.M., took place on Tuesday, the 12th inst., at the Star Assembly Room, on which occasion there was a numerous attendance of members of the Lodge and visiting brethren. The following formed the board of installed masters:—Bros. M. E. Frost, S. D. Forbes, Lieutenant Miller R.M., Cornelius Wheeler, J. Craven, Ellis, Main, Wallingford, Ubadell, Sleeman, Maltby, A. L. Emanuel, Stapleford and J. Hall I.M.P., by whom the ceremony of installing his successor was performed in a most impressive manner. The efficient aid rendered by Bro. Hall to the Lodge during his year's rule, and previously as secretary, were suitably acknowledged, and a P.M.'s jewel was presented to him. It bore the following inscription:—"Presented to Bro. John Hall by the brethren of the Gosport Lodge, No. 903, in recognition of his able and valuable services as W.M. 1874." The W.M. appointed his officers as follows:—I.P.M. Bro. J. Hall; S.W. Bro. J. Maling; J.W. Bro. the Rev. E. B. C. Churchill; Treasurer Bro. C. R. Whitcomb; Secretary Bro. W. Hillier; S.D. Bro. A. Brown; J.D. Bro. Robinson; D. of C. Bro. Lover; I.G. Bro. Wise; Organist Bro. Missolbrook; Stewards Bros. Mitchell and Grant. The installation banquet took place at the India Arms, under the presidency of the W.M., and a very pleasant evening was spent.

Lodge of Montefiore, No. 1017.—A meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Bro. J. Grunebaum W.M., supported by his Wardens and Officers, and P.M.'s. Bros. S. V. Abrahams, E. P. Albert Secretary, Lowenstark, J Lazarus, Pollitzer, De Solla, &c. The Lodge having been opened, the following gentlemen were ballotted for and initiated, viz., Bros. M. Levy, J. Borliner, H. Hunt, L. M. Russo and H. Dransburg. Bros. Wilson and Cave were raised to the third degree, and Bro. Harper was passed to the degree of a Fellow Craft. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a slight repast. The visitors were Bros. Borgen 188, and M. Spiegel 188.

Lord Warden Lodge, 1096.—On Friday, the 15th inst., Bro. T. J. Usher P.M. and Secretary, was presented with a P.M.'s gold jewel by the Lodge, as one of the founders, and in recognition of the invaluable services he has rendered to the Lodge since its formation.

Eclectic Lodge, No. 1201.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, the 18th instant, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street. Bros. C. Watts W.M.; J. Mander S.W.; J. Nunn P.G.S. Treasurer, and Collett P.M. The Lodge was opened and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. Saxon and Paramore were passed to the degree of Fellow Crafts, and Bro. Ascender was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. The W.M., although suffering from indisposition, performed the ceremonies admirably. A board of Installed Masters was then formed, and Bro. Mander J.W. and W.M. elect was presented to the Lodge, and received the benefit of installation at the hands of Bro. Joshua Nunn, the founder of the Lodge and first Master. The new Master installed his officers as follows, viz:—Bros. C. Watts I.P.M., J. H. Watts S.W., Pankhurst J.W., J. Nunn P.G.S. Treasurer, Wood Secretary, Harty S.D., Taylor J.D., Moss I.G., Sault D.C., Grant Tyler. After which the brethren adjourned to the Café Royal, Ayr Street, Regent Street, where an excellent banquet was provided by Bro. Nicols. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given. The toasts of the W.M., Past Masters and visitors were given. The toasts of the officers followed, and the brethren separated after a most enjoyable gathering.

Finsbury Park Lodge, No. 1288.—The installation meeting of this young, but thriving Lodge, met on Thursday, 14th inst., at the Finsbury Park Hotel, Seven Sisters' Road, Holloway. Bro. J. F. Smith occupying the chair, T. Meekham S.W., Davis J.W., and P.M.'s J. Frost, Price, H. Stacey and a numerous assemblage of the brethren. The Lodge was opened and the minutes were confirmed. The business consisted of 4 raisings, 2 passings and 4 initiations. Bro. T. Meekham S.W. and W.M. elect was presented to a Board of Installed Masters, and the ceremony was admirably performed by Bro. J. Stacey P.M.; the W.M. having been saluted according to ancient custom, invested his officers, Bros. Davis S.W., Baker J.W., J. F. Smith P.M. Treasurer, Price P.M. Secretary, Good S.D., Simmonds J.D., and Rothschild I.G. The Lodge was then closed, and the usual banquet followed. In the course of the evening a very elegant gold Past Master's jewel was presented to the retiring W.M. for the able manner he had conducted the duties of the chair during

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his year of office. The toasts of the Wardens and Officers were given and responded to, and the brothers separated.

Gladsmuir Lodge, No. 1385, Barnet.—An emergency meeting of this Lodge was held on the 16th inst. Messrs. G. B. Abbott and W. F. Tannton were initiated.

Halsey Lodge, No. 1479, St. Albans.—The monthly meeting of the members of this young and flourishing Lodge was held at the Town Hall, St. Albans, on Wednesday, 20th inst., Bro. Lowthin W.M. in the chair. After the business of the evening had been transacted, the brethren adjourned to The Peahen, where supper was served in a very satisfactory manner by Bro. W. Marks.

THE DRAMA.

"Our Boys"—The Holborn Amphitheatre.

THE Theatrical event of the week, has been the production at the Vandeville Theatre of a new comedy from the pen of Mr. H. J. Byron. *Our Boys*, as the play in question is entitled, is one of the funniest, as it is certainly one of the most improbable of Mr. Byron's many productions. The very extravagance of the story furnishes a not inconsiderable degree of the amusement, but, in addition to this, there is an abundance of witty dialogue, and some quaint bits of character add to the general fund of entertainment. Mr. Byron has written more probable stories; perhaps a few that are more deserving of a place in the general literature of the country, but we may safely say that he has never produced one more provocative of downright hearty laughter than this.

To begin with, we are asked to believe that an aristocratic baronet and an illiterate batterman have become intimately acquainted with each other, and are on the warmest of visiting terms. They have scarcely anything in common; their tastes, antecedents, occupations being as different as one can well imagine; but one circumstance suffices to bind them together in the bonds of a mutual sympathy. It appears that Sir Geoffrey Champneys and Perkyn Middlewick, as these strange acquaintances are called, have each a son of about the same age, whom they have sent to travel on the Continent. By another strange coincidence, the two young men have met each other abroad, and have themselves struck up a fast friendship. By a third extraordinary coincidence, the two ladies, whom Sir Geoffrey and Mr. Middlewick have respectively selected for their daughters-in-law, have also been travelling on the Continent, and have made the acquaintance of the young men. Thus it would seem that a most surprising series of coincidences had combined to give effect to the paternal wishes. Unfortunately, however, the young lady whom Sir Geoffrey had fixed his heart, or rather his son's heart upon, has won the affections of Middlewick *fils*, while the juvenile Champneys has thrown himself at the feet of the lady whom the butterman had determined his son should marry. Here, therefore, is a complication, which to parents of the stern mould of Sir Geoffrey Champneys and Mr. Middlewick, could by no possibility be endured. The sons must make an exchange of sweethearts, or their parents will cut them off with a shilling, and as the young men prove obdurate in the matter, they are, in fact, expelled from the paternal mansions. In the third act we find the two swains "roughing it" in London lodgings. They have found it not such easy work to earn a living as they had expected, and they have experienced something like privation. But if they have fared badly, their parents have not been much more fortunate. The love of their offspring has softened the rigour of their determination, and they are now disposed to take a milder view of their sons' disobedience. The end of it all is that they pay a visit to the aforesaid lodgings, whither all the other *dramatis personæ* repair, and a mutual interchange of forgiveness brings the comedy to a close. The piece is excellently acted, Mr. David James giving us an excellent piece of character acting as Perkyn Middlewick; Mr. Farren played Sir Geoffrey Champneys in his usual effective manner, and Mr. Thomas Thorne made the most of his character of Talbot Champneys. Miss Cicely Richards deserves a word of commendation for her capital rendering of the part of the lodging house servant, and Misses Amy Roselle, Kate Bishop, and Larkin are also seen to advantage.

The ever-popular *Madame Angot* is once more being played to crowded audiences, this time at the Holborn Amphitheatre, under the direction of Mr. Hollingshead. Miss Jenny Pratt sustains the character of Madame Lange, Miss Emily Muir that of Clairette, and Messrs. E. Cotte and Charles Lyall those of Ange Pitou and Pomponnet. The music is very effectively rendered, and the scene of the Calypso Ball is made additionally effective by some capital dancing by Mr. John D'Auban, and a very clever transformation dance, after the manner of Mr. Morris, by Miss Simms.

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VOL. I.—No. 5. SATURDAY, 30th JANUARY 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

THE ARCHÆOLOGY OF THE CRAFT.

ALTHOUGH it has been customary, in tracing the history of Masonry, to date its first corporate beginnings from the period when the Temple of Solomon was reared in majestic silence upon the mystic mount of Moriah, yet it is undoubted that the Craft may claim an antiquity higher far than this. The Masonic Art is of course as ancient as civilisation. Man was a builder long before he had learned to live peacefully in social intercourse with his fellows, and the rude hut of the savage is the parent of those majestic structures which in every age have upheld the dignity of the human intellect. How many ages elapsed before mankind ventured to forsake their rude edifices of timber for those of stone or baked earth, or what daring spirit first thought of poising stones in the air in the enduring form of an arch, it would be idle to conjecture. From central Asia, which may be regarded as the cradle of the human race, came the first Masons, whose works have existed to the present day. The cavern temples of India are probably amongst the oldest examples of the work of the sculptor, and it would appear that man first burrowed in the rock before he thought of piling stones in the clouds. The researches of Champollion, Sir Gardner Wilkinson, and other eminent Egyptologists, have thrown a flood of light upon this once obscure subject, and when the history of Masonry is really written the historian will probably be inclined to regard the Pyramids as the proper point of departure, rather than the fair building which Solomon raised in honour of the Great Jehovah. Egypt in truth may be regarded as the ancient university of science and art. The caste of the artificers included the Masons as amongst its most important members, and these, congregated in vast cities like Memphis and Thebes, acquired a knowledge of the craft which has never been surpassed by any architects either ancient or modern. Herodotus, who flourished 408 B.C., tells us that Thebes possessed a hundred gates and palaces, and temples innumerable. The priests who received the illustrious Greek traveller were able to point to a history, carefully recorded, stretching back for ages into the remote past; to a monarchy of many dynasties, which was preceded by a Theocracy probably coeval with Egyptian civilisation. Recent research has not only confirmed the statement of the wise and observant Herodotus, but it justifies us in throwing back the origin of Egyptian civilisation to a period so remote that the mention of it here would merely excite useless controversy. Mr. Horner's researches in the deposits of the Nile appear to show that, thirteen thousand years ago, man, sufficiently civilised to be in possession of pottery hardened by fire, lived in the Nile valley. However much we may be inclined to question the data upon which the calculations of this gentleman were made, we are yet constrained to admit that the age of the more ancient of the monuments of Egypt has been under estimated. When Napoleon told his troops that forty centuries looked down upon them from the summits of the Pyramids, he was merely stating the current opinion of his time. In these days most persons skilled in Egyptology would be inclined to admit that two thousand years ago these celebrated monuments of kingly ambition were looked upon by the Egyptians as ancient buildings, connecting the remote past with a high and complex civilisation. The Masons who built the Pyramids were undoubtedly highly skilled in geometry ages before Euclid wrote his celebrated treatise. Those who state that he created the science of mathematics know little of the history of that marvellous people who made the Nile valley a land of wonder and mystery. That the Egyptian Masons were thoroughly skilled in the science is undoubted, and that they were banded together in fraternities may fairly be assumed from the fact that Mason marks can still be traced in the ruins of the Temples and buildings they erected. It has indeed been suggested that the arrow-headed character in which the inscriptions on the walls of Nineveh are recorded originated in Mason marks, and it may be that we should look East of the Nile for the first signs of that mystic tie which has knit together so many generations of skilled artizans. Whether this be so or not, Egypt must be still regarded as the real cradle of Masonry, since it was here that the art first attained perfection. Sir Gardner Wilkinson has shown, in his celebrated work, that the ARCH was invented by Egyptian workmen. More than one example of this daring mode of roofing is to be found in the most ancient of the Nile monuments, although the preference for straight instead of curved lines in architecture prevented its adoption as a prominent structural feature. There can be no doubt that the ancient people who settled upon the shores of the Mediterranean, derived the main features of the arts for which they were afterwards distinguished from the land of the Nile. Greece was undoubtedly indebted to Egypt for the principles of Science and Art, and the people who lived at the head of this great inland sea was closely connected with the same great parent of the science of civilised life. The Phœnicians no doubt derived much of their knowledge from Egypt, and the structural features of Solomon's Temple show that they adopted the main lines of Egyptian architecture. Mr. Fergusson's Handbook clearly shows that the ground plan of the Temple at Jerusalem differed in no essential feature from the great temples of Thebes and Memphis. In one respect, indeed, it differed from all, and that was in its extremely small dimensions. The reader who may have been accustomed to regard this celebrated building as vast in size, as well as splendid—as it undoubtedly was—in decoration, will be surprised to learn that the Temple proper might have been placed inside an ordinary parish church. Yet nothing is more certain than this fact, which has hitherto been too much obscured by the glosses of commentators of the sacred scriptures. The dimensions, as given in 2 Chronicles iii., are as follows. The length was sixty cubits, and the breadth twenty cubits. The porch was twenty cubits in breadth, and one hundred and twenty in height. The Hebrew cubit was the length of the fore arm, from the elbow to the tip of the middle finger, or twenty-two inches. Reduced to feet, the Temple was in length 110 feet; in breadth 36 ft. 8 in., while the porch, or temple front was 36 ft. 8 in. in breadth, by 236 ft. 8 in. in height. Leaving the porch out of consideration, and this was only remarkable for its height, it will be at once seen that our assertion that the building could have stood within an ordinary parish church is certainly within the mark. This celebrated structure was surrounded by courts and buildings of various kinds, and the whole no doubt produced a grand and imposing appearance. It is, however, hardly reasonable to suppose that the erection of this small structure, apart from the purposes for which it was intended, could be of sufficient importance to mark an epoch in the history of Masonry. The workmen may indeed have learned the sublime creed which was given to the Hebrews by Jehovah, and this circumstance may have given to the symbolism of the Craft a dignity and significance it could not have possessed before, but we must

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look beyond the artisans of Tyre for the early traces of that mystic brotherhood who have played so great a part in human civilisation. As we have said, we look to Egypt for these early traces. The highest and grandest truths of modern speculative Masonry were early taught by the Egyptian priesthood, and now that the secret of the sacred hieroglyphics has been unfolded, we are familiar with the fact that this celebrated hierarchy carefully distinguished between the great Architect of the Universe and the crowd of inferior gods with whom they surrounded him; and in the story of Osiris we have the first germs of that mystic sacrifice, which was consummated ages afterwards on Calvary. The Egyptian mysteries, which were so carefully guarded from the vulgar, were, we have reason to believe, merely scientific and moral truths, having for their centre and source the Supreme Being, in whom the superior grade of priest steadfastly believed. These truths were not entirely lost with the decline of Egyptian civilisation, and in the celebrated Dionysian mysteries we may doubtless trace an Egyptian origin. If the Greek mythology, as there is reason to believe, is in part derived from the Egyptian system, the clue to the real origin of the Dionysian mysteries is complete. But we must leave this interesting subject for the present, with an earnest recommendation to our brethren who may be interested in the Archæology of the Craft, to follow the path we have thus roughly and hastily sketched out.

JOHANNITE MASONRY.

IN our opening number we inserted a series of four questions, proposed to us by a brother of some standing; the first three of which inquired (1) why are there two St. Johns recognised in Craft Masonry? (2) Why are they placed at the summer and winter solstices respectively? (3) Do they represent the two great principles of Light and Darkness, good and evil? As our readers seem to fight shy of discussing these queries, we propose to furnish, on the present occasion, a brief, but we hope sufficient summary of a work, entitled *A Mirror for the Johannite Masons*, by the Rev. Geo. Oliver, D.D. (Edition 1848, London: R. Spencer, 314 High Holborn.) This, we trust, may throw some light on the propositions of our correspondent, and serve, perhaps, to awaken the interest of those of our brethren to whom the study of Masonry is a labour of love.

After sundry preliminary observations, in order to show the spirit in which he approaches this recondite subject, the author states one or more important facts. From the very beginning of the Christian Era Lodges were always dedicated To God and Holy St. John. This formula, he tells us, was introduced into the first known lectures compiled by Grand Masters Payne, Desaguliers, Anderson, &c., from ancient documents, from the legitimate Archives of Masonry, and from other and equally authentic sources. In the lectures drawn up for the general use of the Lodges, after the re-union of 1813, by Dr. Hemming and others, references to the two St. Johns, as patrons and parallels of Masonry, were discontinued. Dr. Oliver considers this discontinuance was unjustifiable, and proceeds to give his reasons for this opinion. Before doing so, however, he deems it necessary to meet certain theories which have sought to account for the connection of St. John with Masonry. These theories he dismisses almost, we may say, abruptly, as in nowise accountable for our recognition of St. John. Thus, the suggestion that Masonry in Scotland was called St. John's Masonry, because the Battle of Bannockburn was fought on St. John's day, and Robert Bruce immediately thereafter revived Freemasonry—the Church of Kelso, the first built in Scotland by actual Freemasons being dedicated to that saint—he considers "can scarcely be tenable." The name of St. John was attached to Freemasonry in other countries, where "Scottish transactions could not be sufficient authority to influence the fraternity in the adoption of a patron, or a name for the institution." Then as to the idea that the legend of St. John was introduced into Masonry by the Templars or other Crusaders, Dr. Oliver considers "it would not be difficult to prove" that the Templars engaged in the Crusades "were perfectly ignorant of symbolical Masonry," and thinks every sensible Mason will agree with him "that there is no evidence whatever to substantiate a contrary belief." A third view is a solution of the mystery in the God Janus, of which John is supposed to be a corruption. "As Janus looked two ways at once, *i.e.*, to the old and new year, or to the sun *above* and *below* the Equinoctial, so the festivals of the two St. Johns are celebrated at the summer and winter solstices." This the author dismisses altogether as quite inapplicable. The last idea attributes the honour to St. John the Almsgiver, Patriarch of Alexandria, in the sixth century, but who resided at Jerusalem, "and instituted a fraternity to attend upon the sick, and to afford pecuniary aid to the needy." He was afterwards canonised "under the name of St. John the Almsgiver of Jerusalem, and is acknowledged as the patron of all societies which are instituted for the relief of the sick and destitute." But this view is clearly an error, writes Dr. Oliver, "from our particular days of festival, which are June 24th and December 27th," those of St. John the Almsgiver being January 23rd and November 11th.

Having in this manner disposed of these several theories, Dr. Oliver proceeds to show why, in his opinion, the St. Johns should be regarded as the legitimate patrons of Christian Masonry. He first examines the ritual propounded by the revived Grand Lodge in 1717, and quotes from the earliest lectures, issued under its sanction passages in which a Lodge is described as "The Holy Lodge of St. John" (p. 46). He then justifies his position by a reference to the formula, as improved by Desaguliers and Anderson a few years later, wherein Lodges are said to have been called St. John's Lodges, "because 'he was the baptizer and forerunner of our Saviour, and announced him as the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sins of the world.'" In support of this he further quotes the French ritual of 1730. Then in the "Old York Lecture," the two St. Johns occupy a prominent position. We give a part of his quotation from this catechism:—"Q. But, brother, as Solomon was a Jew, and died long before the promulgation of Christianity, to whom were they (the Lodges) dedicated under the Christian dispensation? A. From Solomon the patronage of Masonry passed to St. John the Baptist . . . . . Q. Why were the Lodges dedicated to St. John the Baptist? A. Because he was the forerunner of our Saviour; and by preaching repentance and humiliation, drew the first parallel of the Gospel. Q. Had St. John the Baptist any equal? A. He had; St. John the Evangelist. Q. Why is he said to be equal to the Baptist? A. Because he finished by his learning what the other began by his zeal, and thus drew a second line parallel to the former; ever since which time Freemasons' Lodges in all Christian countries have been dedicated to the one or the other, or both of these worthy and worshipful men." In a ritual practised a little later, by the Lodges in the north of England, we find the following in opposition to the theory that Lodges were dedicated to St. John because the Masons engaged in the conquest of the Holy Land adopted him as their patron. "St. John obtains our dedication as being the proclaimer of that salvation . . . . and we, as a set of religious men, assembling in the true faith, commemorate the proclamation of the Baptist. In the name of St. John the Evangelist, we acknowledge the testimonies he gives. . . . . " Thus the name of St. John appears to have been "a generic term for all Freemasons' "Lodges," a fact, we are told, confirmed by the "Golden Remains of the Holy Masonic Writers," which uniformly speak of the two St. Johns as being "universally received as the undoubted patrons of the Craft." A very proper distinction is drawn between the two propositions that the St. Johns were "the original patrons," which is not asserted, and that they are "the legitimate patrons and parallels" of the Order, which is; and the old lecturers are again quoted in evidence. Carrying the argument through further stages, Dr. Oliver then expresses his belief that "changing the grand patrons of Masonry along with the systems of religion by which it is practised, is perfectly consistent with ordinary usage in other important matters." Thus, in the patriarchal age, the grand parallels of Freemasonry were Noah and Abraham; under the Jews, Moses and Solomon; under Christians, the two St. Johns. Again, Masons, during these several epochs had distinct appellations, "but in all ages they were equally styled 'the brethren.'" Dr. Oliver is in no way dismayed at this system of appropriating Masonic patronage to different parallels at different epochs, but thinks it a perfectly rational one.

As to the time when this parallelism, in connection with Christian Masonry, was introduced into the Order, Dr. Oliver

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regards this dogma as evidently one of great antiquity, quoting, again, the earliest lectures (1721) sanctioned by the revived Grand Lodge of 1717, and, also, a formula introduced a few years later, improved by Bro. Dunckerley. The quotation from the latter we give *verbatim*. "In all regularly constituted Lodges there is a certain point within a circle, the point representing an individual brother, the circle representing the boundary line of his duty to God and man, beyond which he is never to suffer his passions, prejudices, or interests to betray him on any occasion. *This circle is embordered by two perpendicular lines, representing St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist, who were perfect parallels in Christianity as well as in Masonry;* and upon the vertex rests the book of the holy scriptures, which point out the whole duty of man. In going round this circle, we necessarily touch upon these two lines, as well as on the holy scriptures, and whilst a Mason keeps himself thus circumscribed, it is impossible that he should materially err." A curious illustration of the connection of this symbol of the circle and parallel lines with the two St. Johns is found in the ancient union of the Zodiacal circle with the period when the festival of the two Saints was celebrated. Durand, we are told, mentions that, in some places, on the feast of St. John the Baptist, a wheel is rolled about "to signify that the sun, then occupying the highest place in the Zodiac, is beginning to descend." A similar ceremony was observed on St. John the Evangelist's day from the very first establishment of Christianity.

Thus far, we have followed Dr. Oliver through these stages, let us next give his reasons "why the two St. Johns were invested with these Masonic honours," and, first, as to St. John the Baptist. He begins by quoting the "Charter of Colne, under date of 1535," which states, we are informed, "the Masters of our Order took the name of *Initiated Brothers of St. John*, following the footsteps, and imitating the conduct of St. John the Baptist, the forerunner of the Light and the first martyr of the enlightened." He thinks it a just conclusion that St. John was universally received, at the date given and for the reason assigned, as the patron of the Order, whether this charter, whose genuineness has been questioned, be really as ancient as the date implies, or whether it be an interpolation or forgery of the last century. For, as he very properly urges, no document, in which it was attempted to foist any new or startling doctrine upon the fraternity, would have been allowed to circulate among the brethren as an authentic production. Other reasons are assigned, that the origin of eremitic life is attributed to him (equally with Elias), that he performed the rite of baptism on Christ, who pronounced him to be "a burning and a shining light,"—Masonry being a science of light; and that he was one of the Essenes, by whom he was adopted, to whom in character he bore a very strong resemblance, and in whose order he doubtless attained to the chief dignity. Then follow the reasons for connecting St. John the Evangelist as patron of the Craft. These are learnedly and elaborately set forth, and one is worth referring to, being "derived from the assimilation of the doctrines, which he taught to those of Freemasons, BROTHERLY LOVE being the great design of both."

In the next chapter, or letter, Dr. Oliver expatiates at length on the parallelism of the two St. Johns. In the course of his remarks thereon he points out that their connection with Freemasonry was undoubtedly acknowledged by the revived Grand Lodge, from its very first establishment. The preliminary grand festival was held on the day of St. John the Baptist, A.D. 1717, subsequent festivals were held, sometimes on the one Saint's day, sometimes on the other, in pursuance of one of the original laws of the Grand Lodge agreed to in 1721. This provided that "the Brethren of all the Lodges, in and about London and Westminster, shall meet at an annual communication, in some convenient places, on St. John the Baptist's day, or else on St. John the Evangelist's day, as the Grand Lodge shall think fit, by a new regulation, having hitherto met on St. John the Baptist's day. But whether there shall be a feast for all the brethren or not, yet the Grand Lodge must meet in some convenient place annually on St. John's day; or, if it be Sunday, then on the next day, in order to choose, every year, a new Grand Master, Deputy, and Wardens." A further decisive proof is afforded that the days of St. John were used for the festivals of Masonry. Queen Elizabeth, it is recorded, "sent an armed force to break up the annual Grand Lodge at York, *which was always held on the day of St. John the Evangelist.*"

The remaining letters in the book are devoted, firstly to inquiring whether the assignment of the patronage of Masonry to the two St. Johns is in any way injurious to the universality of the Order, and next to recapitulating the arguments and conclusions propounded and arrived at in the preceding letters. We need not dwell on these matters. We refer the reader to a curious coincidence mentioned in a footnote at p. 130. Beyond this it will suffice, perhaps, if we make one further quotation, in order to satisfy the second of the two questions proposed by our correspondent. Dr. Oliver suggests it as "one reason why the St. Johns had two days assigned to them at the summer and winter solstices," that they were respectively "the commencement and completion of the ancient and modern year; for Gibelin says that the first of all years, and the most ancient that we know of, began in the month of June; and in like manner St. John the Baptist drew the first line of the Gospel, and St. John the Evangelist lived to see it completely established and prosperous in the world, according to the prediction of his Divine Master. And for this reason it was that the early Christians, at the instance of Gregory, Bishop of Neo-Cæsarea, in Pontus, instituted festivals in honour of these saints, as a substitute for the solemnities used by the brethren at the two solstices." Further explanation on this point will be found in letter VI., in which the parallelism of the two St. Johns is examined.

And now to briefly sum up this exposition of Dr. Oliver's book, with a view to satisfying the three queries of our correspondent. 1. The two St. Johns are recognised in Craft Masonry, because, as regards St. John the Baptist, he heralded the Christian dispensation, bearing witness to the Light; he was the reputed originator of ascetic or "exclusive societies;" he was one of the Essenes "by whom Freemasonry was undoubtedly preserved." As regards St. John the Evangelist, because, among other reasons, "of the assimilation of the doctrines which he taught, to those of Freemasonry—BROTHERLY LOVE being the great design of both." 2. They are placed at the summer and winter solstices respectively, because their festivals almost exactly coincide with the periods of these solstices; because these solstices marked the commencement and completion of the ancient and modern year; and "St. John the Baptist, drew the first line of the Gospel, St. John the Evangelist lived to see it completely established." It follows hence, that to question No. 3: "Is it to represent the two great principles of Light and Darkness, good and evil?" a negative answer must be given.

Our summary has extended beyond the limits we had originally proposed. But this will be of little moment if we have contrived to make clear to our readers, and especially to the correspondent who broached the subject, a few weeks since, the views on Johannite Masonry expounded by so eminent a Masonic writer as the late Dr. Oliver. We have studiously avoided any running commentary of our own on the positions he lays down. We have simply endeavoured to give a clear idea of his work, without pausing to analyse its merits, or the justice of his arguments. Those to whom the subject is interesting will do well to read this book; and if any are disposed to question the conclusions at which he arrives, they may rely on us to afford them, within reasonable limits, an opportunity for discussion in the columns of this journal.

LABOUR—ITS DUTIES AND ITS RIGHTS.

THE battle between capital and labour is one of those great social questions that has agitated the public mind, not only of England, but of Europe and America. The fierce competition, in both the menial and mental market, is so great, that the humblest situations, both governmental and municipal, are sought for with almost a ravenous avidity. This is not only to be regretted, but to be deplored. That thousands should starve amid the plenty they create, is something so sad as to awaken deep sympathy with these sons of labour. Labour should never be considered a degradation; in almost all labour a man exchanges his strength and intellect for an equivalent, in the form of wages, money, or something in return for his industry. In other words, labour is a system of contracts, bargains imposing mutual obligations. Now, the man

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who is working, no matter in what way, strives perpetually to be honest, not because honesty is the best policy, but for the sake of justice, and that he may render to every man his due. Such a labourer is continually building up in himself one of the greatest principles of social duty and morality. Labour is a school of benevolence, as well as justice. A man, to support himself, must serve others. He must do or produce something for their comfort or gratification. Labour may be performed so as to give an elevated impulse to the mind, as well as to feed the body. Brotherhood is not a cold, selfish, isolation, that can stand by, and, with freezing apathy, see any of the members of the human family unjustly oppressed. Men may work in different departments of life, and recognise their brotherly relation, and honour one another, and hold friendly communication with one another. Undoubtedly men will prefer as friends and common associates those with whom they sympathise most; but this should not be to form a rank or caste. For example, the intelligent seek out the intelligent, and the pious the religious; but suppose the religious and the intelligent were to cut themselves off by some broad visible distinction from the rest of society, to form a clan of their own, to refuse admission into their houses to people of inferior knowledge and virtue, and to diminish as far as possible the intercourse with them, would not society rise up as as one man against this exclusiveness? also to raise their voice against every injustice, no matter from what source it may come. These ideas are suggested in consequence of the conduct of Lord John Manners. A short time since a memorial was presented to the Right Honorable Lord John Manners, Her Majesty's Postmaster-General, by a number of the *employés* of the Post Office. That memorial was couched in respectful terms. It showed the high price of house rent and fuel, and, in consideration of the increased demands upon their funds, to meet these necessities of housekeeping, they respectfully requested an advance of wages. That memorial was most harshly met, not only by a blank refusal to inquire into the application, but by an act of official despotism and culpable severity that cannot be justified. Men who had been in the postal service—men who had spent the best portion of their days in that service—were peremptorily dismissed for merely asking that their wages might be advanced to keep themselves and families in a decent and respectful position. What employer of labour, whether in town or country, would have done as the postal authorities have in such a matter? The course that every reasonable person would have adopted would have been to have given the memorial due consideration, and if he considered its request inconsistent or unreasonable, decline to accede to it. Not so the Post Office. Many of the men are at once and for ever discharged, and others reduced in position and wages, for doing, with all respect, that which is perfectly legal and right.

Taking the Post Office as an employer of labour only, in which light those who are employed are sure to look at it, who can see why it should expect or exact more from its *employés* than any other, without offering some equivalent advantage. Those in the country know but little of the condition of the London men, but many of us know the difficulty of the duties, and the miserable remuneration to those in office in small towns. The correct and accurate working of this department of the public service is so very important for the commercial necessities of the nation, that all thinking and honest minds must deprecate that vile system of parsimonious economy that does an injustice to labour, and leads to temptation. When a man has secured a situation in the Post Office as a clerk, he ought to receive that amount of remuneration for his services as will enable him to live in a respectable manner. His industry is required, his integrity is tested. A position as Clerk in a Post Office ought to be of such value that a young man entering upon that duty should consider himself settled for life. He should be able to feel that his present reward and future prospects are good enough to stimulate him to make every exertion to perform his responsible duties with the care and fidelity so absolutely necessary. The battle between capital and labour is one of those great social questions that has yet to be dealt with. When high officials of an English government have descended to petty persecution, it behoves every lover of right and justice to enter a stern protest against such conduct. The facts of the case are these: Of the thirty-two Post Office *employés* suspended by Lord John Manners, because their petition for increase of pay had been published in the newspapers, without their connivance, as they assert, three were restored to duty on their former footing, twenty-three were "reduced," one resigned, and five were dismissed, these facts speak for themselves, and the Postmaster has not heard the last upon this subject.

MASONIC CURIOSITIES.

IN the early part of the last century, public Processions of our Fraternity in London, at the annual installation of the M. W. Grand Master, were celebrated with a parade and splendour which we can hardly realise in these sober days. They rivalled the processions of the great Lord Mayor, and in respect to the public excitement they occasioned and the occupation which they gave to gossips, probably surpassed it. These celebrations by a Society whose objects were mysterious and symbolism unusual, could not fail to give rise to frequent squibs and pasquinades from the idle and frothy wits of the town. In the year 1742, a large engraving of one of these Processions appeared, so clever in execution and outrageous in parody, that Grand Lodge from that time felt the necessity of discontinuing the annual Procession in public, which was finally abolished (except in case of dispensation for special occasions) in the year 1745.

The caricature referred to was entitled, "A GEOMETRICAL VIEW OF YE GRAND PROCESSION OF YE SCALD MISERABLE MASONS, DESIGNED AS THEY WERE DRAWN UP OVER AGAINST SOMERSET HOUSE IN YE STRAND ON YE 27TH DAY OF APRIL, ANº. 1742. *Invented and engraved by A. Benoist, at his lodgings at Mr Jordan's, a Grocer, ye North East corner of Compton St., Soho.*"

It is to be regretted that Bro. Findel, in his "History," skims the surface of those times with so light a hand. Far more curious information than has come to light hitherto, will yet be found, as to the gradual disclosure of time—old symbols and historically significant bits of Ritual, by the diligent analyst of old prints, tracts, and MSS. which remain at present an undigested mass.

The French writer, "Clavel," in his *Pictorial History of Freemasonry* (Paris, 1843), reproduces a portion of this print, remarking that it had been copied from what was believed to be the only remaining exemplar—the property of Bro. Morison of Greenfield.

By the courtesy of Bro. Walter Spencer, of the Masonic Depôt, opposite Freemasons' Hall, we have been favoured with a view of this rare curiosity, presumably that mentioned by Clavel in 1843. We found it of much interest as a delineation of costume and manners of the period, but a more ridiculous libel than we had believed possible, of our Masonic ancestors. It is indexed thus—

1° *The Grand Tyler* (on a donkey) *carrying ye sword of State, a present of old Ishmael Abiff to old Hyram King of ye Saracens, to H. G. of Wattin, G. M. of ye Holy Lodge of St. John of Jerusalem in Clerkenwell.* 4° *ye Stewards in three Gutt Carts, drawn by Asses*—and so on.

Some of the Brethren appear stumping it on wooden legs, others in rags and tatters, the G. M. and his attendants adorned with sheeps' and asses' heads; fools'-caps are frequent, and huge paunches—showing that propensity to good living was not unknown as a taunt against us in those days. The engraving is however, a real work of art, and inspires us with admiration for the misdirected talent of the draughtsman.

Bro. Spencer's kindness did not end here, for after noting these details, he produced with pardonable enthusiasm, a smaller and somewhat discoloured rarity—which, said he, "is doubtless, also unique. It was purchased by my father at the sale of the library of Horace Walpole, at Strawberry Hill, hidden under the cover of an old edition of the *Constitutions*." This was of earlier date than the former, having been printed in 1741, *and sold by Mrs. Dodd, at the Peacock without Temple Bar.* It is a sketchy print, coloured, the orpiments used have gone bad with age, and produced the blotches which disfigure it. It bears as title, "*Mock Masonry: or the Grand Procession,*" represents the coach of the G. M. drawn by eight jibbing hacks, two cartloads of the Grand Stewards, and other functionaries with extemporised instruments of music to which the jack-asses they bestride give chorus.

Underneath it are the following doggrell rhymes:—

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I.

Pray vat be dis vine show we gaze on?
O 'tis the Flower of all the Nation,
De Cavalcade of de Free Mason.

II.

And who be dose who stride Jack Ass-a,
And blow de Cow-horns as dey pass-a?
Dat secret I no guess—alas-a.

III.

Who be dose who next 'em come-a,
With Butter-Tubs for Kettle Drum-a?
O dat's a Mystery too, Sirs—mum-a.

IV.

Who's he with Cap and Sword so stern-a?
Modest Montgomery of Hibern-a,
Who guard de Lodge, and de Key who turn-a.

V.

Vat's he with Truncheon leads the Van-a?
By Gar one portly proper Man-a.
Dat's Jones who marshals all de Train-a.

VI.

Who dose dat ride in Carts and Six-a,
With such brave Nicknacks round der Necks-a?
Dey be de Stewards de Feast who fix-a.

VII.

But who be dose who next approach-a?
Lord vat fine Horses draw der Coach-a!
O! de Grand Masters I dare vouch-a.

VIII.

Now C—r—y, Wh-t-h-ad, me intend-a
For, Thanks dis sage Advice to lend-a!
Ne'er break your Jest to loose your Friend-a.

It is vain for us, at this distance of time, without more search into contemporary documents than we are able to make at present, to speculate as to the identity of the Brethren indicated in the last verse; which might afford some clue to the authorship of the lampoon; we leave it—a moot point for more industrious investigators.

These and similar curiosities would find an appropriate resting-place in the Library of our Grand Lodge. Should their fate be destined to the archives of some sister corporation abroad: haply our successors may, in time to come, cavil at our lack of discernment. Whilst we can point, however, to the noble annual increase visible in our Charitable endeavours, we need not be very uneasy as to the opinion of posterity on minor points.

We must not omit to mention that the central portion of the large caricature of 1742, representing the old façade of Somerset House with part of the procession, has been reprinted on a small scale and may be had of Messrs. Spencer and Co. for 3s 6d.

THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

THE Anniversary Festival of the above Institution was held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, on Wednesday evening. R.W. Provincial Grand Master for Staffordshire the Right Hon. the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot presided, and no fewer than 334 brethren from the various metropolitan and provincial Lodges were present to do honour to the occasion. The banquet was exceedingly well served, under the superintendence of Bro. Francatelli, and gave unlimited satisfaction to the guests. Dinner over and the cloth removed, the Chairman gave the toast of "Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen," referring, in the course of his observations, to the very natural anxiety she must be now experiencing in respect of the health of her youngest son, Bro. Prince Leopold. That this toast was received with the utmost enthusiasm by the company—*ça va sans dire*. In proposing the health of "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Patron and President of the Institution, of H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, and the other members of the Royal Family," the noble Chairman referred to the Prince's high rank in the Order, his eagerness to respond to any call which might be made upon him, and the readiness with which he undertook the duties of Grand Master on the retirement of the Marquis of Ripon, who, he hoped, might even yet be induced to reappear among his Masonic brethren, and take, once more, an active part in the duties of Masonry. In the toast "The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon M.W. Pro. G.M.," with which was associated that of "The Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy Grand Master, and the present and past Grand Officers," the Chairman referred, in feeling terms, to the severe bereavement of his noble Bro. of Carnarvon, and expressed the deep regret he felt that his Lordship was, thereby, prevented honouring the occasion with his presence. He further remarked, in allusion to Lord Skelmersdale, and his position as Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard, that he hoped the time was not far distant when Freemasonry would be fully recognised at Court. After the usual response, there followed the toast of the evening, "Success to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons." In commending this to the notice of those present, and, indeed, to the whole of the Craft, his lordship dwelt at some length on the undoubted merits of the Institution, and its claim for the active sympathy and support of every individual Freemason. He pointed out that at the present moment there were not less than 33 candidates for men and only nine vacancies, while as regards the widows the case was even worse, there being 35 candidates for only three vacancies. This, his lordship remarked, was hardly to be considered satisfactory, considering the extent and ramifications of the Order, and that the first and chiefest duty of Masons was Charity, adding, very forcibly and pointedly, "Brother Masons, what are you about?" to acquiesce in such a state of things. He then concluded his remarks with a very forcible appeal on behalf of the cause he was pleading, and offered sundry valuable suggestions as to how, by the practice of a little self-denial, each Mason might help to advance the prosperity of the Institution. The toast, which was coupled with the name of the Treasurer, Brother Tomkins, Grand Treasurer, was drunk with enthusiastic cheering. After a brief reply from Brother Tomkins, the Chairman called upon Secretary Brother Terry "for his song," but on the hint that singing was not in Br. Terry's "line," a recitation was suggested, whereupon Br. Terry rose, and with admirable fervour read his list of subscriptions, which amounted in the aggregate to £6,630 13s 6d, there being, moreover, eleven lists still outstanding. Then followed the health of "the Chairman," which was most cordially responded to, and briefly acknowledged; "Success to the other Masonic Institutions"—The Girls' School, responded to Br. Little, and the Boys' School by Br. Binckes; "The Ladies" and "The Stewards," the latter being appropriately acknowledged by R.W. Br. S. Rawson, P. Dist. G.M. China. The company then rose, and, joining the ladies, a most agreeable evening ensued.

We subjoin, for the information of our readers, the several Steward's Lists, together with the numbers of the several Lodges and Chapters contributing, and the amount contributed by each, to the above Institution:—

	£	s	d
The Right Hon. the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, Chairman	100	0	0
Prov. of Wilts—Bro. Robert Stokes	69	14	0
„ „ Saml. Rawson	10	0	0
Prov. of Cheshire—Bro. Capt. Rd. Cope	100	0	0
Lodge			
1 Bro. Wm. H. Trego	35	0	0
2 „ F. A. Philbrick	58	13	0
3 „ Chas. Terry	40	0	0
4 „ Alfred Meadows	16	0	0
5 „ Fredk. Newton	25	2	0
7 „ Chas. Warr	28	0	6
8 „ Richd. J. Hayhow	6	13	0
10 „ Rev. J. N. Palmer	34	8	0
12 „ J. B. Lemaitre	85	10	0
14 „ Edmund Nash	10	10	0
18 „ Jas. C. Chaplin	52	9	6
21 „ Robt. P. Spice	6	6	0
23 „ T. R. Eames	23	18	0
38 „ Wm. Hookvale	35	0	0
20 Bro. Humphrey Wood	25	0	0
25 „ Jos. Lindner	23	1	6
27 „ Chas. Atkins	121	11	0
28 „ David Crombie	49	0	0
29 „ Arthur J. R. Trendell	18	0	0
33 „ George Eedes Eachus	63	11	0
34 „ Wm. Body Date	66	0	0
37 „ Jas. Newton	10	0	0
46 „ Wm. Kingsbury	26	5	0
52 „ H. G. Barwell	10	5	0
54 „ C. M. Jones	25	0	0
55 „ Walter T. Farthing	64	10	0
60 „ W. L. Wheeler	15	0	0
65 „ Chas. Daniel	44	0	0
68 „ William Richards	53	0	0
72 „ J. C. Ring	33	0	0
77 „ Wm. Hicks	40	5	0
87 „ Chas Hull	51	0	0
96 „ Chas. W. C. Hutton	82	11	0
101 „ W. G. Clarke	49	0	0
102 „ Col. James Duff	22	0	0
104 Bro. Wm. Goodacre	10	0	0
104 „ Wm. H. Wakefield	10	0	0
130 „ J. E. Le Feuvre	45	0	0
140 „ Chas. Jardine	41	0	0
141 „ John Kennett	37	8	0
144 „ William Kew	67	5	0
145 „ Thos. Bull	43	13	0
Chap. 145 Jos. Last	20	0	0
Lodge 156 Henry Dubosc sen.	15	0	0
Province of Lincoln:— „ Bro. Wm. Pigott, „ „ John Sutcliffe, „ „ Rev. Danl. Ace D.D., „ „ Geo. Nelson, „ „ John Hadfield	573	0	0
164 Bro. Wm. Hine Haycock	5	5	0
169 „ Geo. Bolton	107	5	0
174 „ G. J. Hilliard	51	10	0
177 „ Fredk. Kent	21	0	0
179 „ Walter Hopekirk	56	0	0
184 „ Chas. Burley	40	13	0

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Lodge			£	s	d
189	Bro.	J. Edmd. Curteis ..	33	13	0
192	„	Francis Fellowes ...	52	0	0
193	„	B. D. Kershaw... ...	27	19	0
197	„	T. G. Bullen	56	1	0
198	„	G. E. Holland... ...	24	12	0
205	„	Chas. F. Hogard ...	29	13	0
209	„	Geo. W. Dixon ...	25	4	6
209	„	J. O. Carter	31	7	6
221	„	Jas. Martin Rutter ...	10	0	0
228	„	Dan. Tallerman ...	40	1	6
256	„	Rev. D. J. Drakeford	45	9	0
259	„	John Aird jun. ...	61	0	0
263	„	Walter Spencer ...	18	0	0
281	„	J. Daniel Moore, M.D.	9	13	6
342	„	S. R. Ellis	77	15	0
345	„	James Pye	28	0	0
346	„	Thos. S. Ainsworth ...	11	1	0
353	„	Hugh E. Diamond ...	10	0	0
357	„	Rev. H. A. Pickard M.A.	70	6	0
360	„	Wm. Brooks Gates ...	15	5	0
382	„	William Coombes ...	15	15	0
393	„	Adam Winlaw	37	8	6
403	„	T. S. Carter	68	2	0
435	„	W. C. Phillips	26	13	0
452	„	F. A. Manning ...	27	0	6
504	„	Geo. Lambert... ...	50	0	0
554	„	J. J. Berry	168	10	0
657	„	John Ll. Jones ...	62	0	0
723	„	Henry Hacker	40	8	0
749	„	John Painter	26	16	0
754	„	Thomas Jones	101	10	0
780	„	Ammon Beasley ...	22	13	0
795	„	H. Howard Hodges ...	31	8	6
813	„	R. R. Harper	78	15	0
834	„	L. Bryett	41	10	0
840	„	Rev. F. W. Harnett ...	34	12	6
859	Bro.	Cuthbert E. Peek ...	25	0	0
861	„	Wright Meanwell ...	65	10	0
862	„	Chas. Walker	24	4	6
871	„	J. Baxter Langley ...	21	15	0
890	„	Geo. Keene Lemann ...	47	0	0
907	„	Thos. Griffiths ...	55	15	0
925	„	E. Worrall	35	0	0
460	„	C. Marsh ...	171	5	0
482	„	Fredk. Derry ...			
482	„	J. Jacobs, Staffordshire			
482	„	W. R. Bettely			
925	„	Henry Sanderson ...	35	0	0
957	„	John Diprose jun. ...	25	0	0
973	„	E. T. Inskip	21	11	0
975	„	G. Makepeace ...	35	5	0
1096	„	Thos. Ayling	10	0	0
1185	„	H. T. Lamb	59	0	0
1196	„	E. G. Legge	34	0	0
1208	„	H. M. Baker	41	0	0
1209	„	Geo. Page	51	15	0
1216	„	H. Newington Bridges	50	9	6
1224	„	Rev. C. J. Martin ...	60	0	0
1259	„	S. Wetherill	165	0	0
1260	„	George King jun. ...	25	0	0
1275	„	William Bell jun. ...	10	0	0
1278	„	Wm. J. Crutch ...	108	10	0
1298	„	H. W. J. Moxon ...	23	16	0
1309	„	Chas. Horsley ...	89	7	0
1314	„	Alfred Avery	66	9	0
1321	„	G. F. Swan	13	0	0
1326	„	William Prattent ...	10	0	0
1327	„	Edwd. West	67	0	0
1360	„	Henry Smith	22	18	0
1365	„	Chas. R. Miles ...	65	0	0
1366	„	J. E. Cussans	35	3	0
1381	„	Fredk. W. Koch ...	23	5	0
1383	Bro.	Hyde Bullen	120	0	0
1385	„	William Cubbush ...	23	15	0
	„	Hayward Edwards ...			
1415	„	Thos. Cubitt	101	5	0
1421	„	C. W. Ashdown ...	40	0	0
1441	„	Chas. Smith	57	10	0
1445	„	W. T. Howe	105	5	0
1464	„	Prof. Erasmus Wilson, F.R.S., F.R.C.S. ...	30	0	0
1475	„	James Jackson ...	34	0	0
1479	„	John Purrott	8	15	0
1489	„	Edwd. G. Sim... ...	62	0	6
	„	E. C. Woodward ...	12	0	0
	„	Rev. P. M. Holden, Holy Palestine Preceptory	10	10	6
	„	Ang. C. Marsetti ...	5	5	0
		Stewards from Province of West Yorkshire—			
199	Bro.	W. H. Brittain			
139	„	Geo. W. Hawksley			
154	„	John Harrop ...			
208	„	Henry Day ...			
208	„	R. J. Critchley			
275	„	Thos. Reddock			
802	„	J. Dawson Sugden			
837	„	John Hirst jun.			
910	„	Captn. E. T. Clarke jun. ...	242	10	0
910	„	John Simpson...			
1019	„	Wm. Hy. Gill...			
1019	„	J. A. Thornton			
1019	„	John Wordsworth			
290	„	Jonas Craven			
154	„	W. H. B. Tomlinson			
880	„	Capt. J. Wordsworth			

With Eleven Lists to come in.

REVIEWS.

All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, 67 Barbican, E.C.

—:o:—

The Sea and its Living Wonders.—A Popular Account of the Marvels of the Deep, and of the Progress of Maritime Discovery, from the Earliest Ages to the Present Time. By Dr. G. Hartwig, author of "The Tropical World," "The Harmonies of Nature," "The Polar World," and "The Subterranean World." Fourth edition, enlarged and improved, with numerous woodcuts and eight chromoxylographic plates. London: Longmans, Green and Co.

Dr. Hartwig has, deservedly, attained a high reputation as author of several works in connection with Natural History. Any new work of his, or new edition of a previous work, is always welcome. This is especially the case with the present volume, for our knowledge of the ocean and its tenants is far more limited than is our knowledge of the land and its tenants. Recent voyages have been undertaken for the purposes of scientifically exploring its depths, and even at the present moment H.M.S. Challenger, with a staff of learned men, is circumnavigating the world, with a view to extend our information. Thus, "The Sea and its Living Wonders," though an enlarged and improved edition only, will, we think, find favour with all classes of readers; its appearance, indeed, is pretty conclusive evidence of the increasing popularity of this branch of Natural History.

The work is divided into three parts or sections, of which Part I. deals with "The Physical Geography of the Sea," and contains two entirely new chapters on "Marine Caves" and "Marine Constructions." One of the earliest questions which the author touches upon, is the depth of the sea and the formation of its bottom. This, of course, is a subject somewhat difficult to investigate, but the ingenuity of our American cousins has been of great service in lessening this difficulty. Till recently, deep sea soundings were somewhat untrustworthy, but, thanks to an American invention, we can now feel some confidence in the results thus ascertained. The invention is thus described:—

"A hole is drilled through a 64-pound or heavier shot, sufficiently large to admit a rod of about three-quarters of an inch in diameter, this rod is about twelve or fourteen inches in length, and, with the exception of about an inch and a half at the bottom, perfectly solid. At the top of the rod are two arms, extending one from each side; these arms being upon easily acting hinges, are capable of being raised or lowered with very little force. A small branch extends from the outside of each of them, which is for the purpose of holding by means of rings a piece of wire, by which the ball is swung to the rod. A piece of rope is then attached, by each end, to the arms, to which again is joined the sounding line. The ball is then lowered into the water, and, upon reaching the bottom, the strain upon the line ceases, and the arms fall down, allowing the ball to detatch itself entirely from the rod, which is then easily drawn up, and the drilled portion of which is discovered to be filled with a specimen of that which it has come in contact with at the bottom. Thus, by this simple apparatus, the ocean bed may become, in time, as well known to us as the bed of the Mersey or the Thames."

From the chapter on "Marine Caves" we extract the following account of the Cave of Hunga in the Tonga Archipelago, a cave with which some of our readers perhaps are not very familiar:—

"Mariner, to whom we owe our first knowledge of this wonderful play of nature, relates that, while he was one day *rat hunting* in the Island of Hunga, with King Finow, who at that time reigned over Tonga, the barbarian monarch took a fancy to drink his *kava* in the cave. Mariner, who had absented himself for a few moments from the company, was very much astonished when, returning to the strand, he saw one chieftain after another dive and disappear. He had but just time to ask the last of them what they were about. "Follow me," answered the chieftain, "and I will show thee a place where thou hast never been before, and where Finow and his chieftains are at present assembled." Mariner immediately guessed that this must be the celebrated cave of which he had frequently heard, and, anxious to see it, he immediately followed the diving chieftain, and swimming after him under the water, safely reached the opening in the rock, through which he emerged into the cave. On ascending to the surface, he immediately heard the voices of the company, and still following his guide, climbed upon a projecting ledge, on which he sat down. All the light of the cave was reflected from the sea beneath, but yet it was sufficient, as soon as the eye had become accustomed to the twilight, to distinguish the surrounding objects."

Mariner, however, with a very natural desire to obtain a better view of the interior of the cave, swam off again, fetched his pistol, some powder which he managed to keep dry, and a torch which he contrived to light, and thus obtained an excellent sight of the interior. He described its chief compartment, which on one side branched out into two smaller cavities, as being "about forty feet wide, and the mean height above the water amounted to as much. The roof was ornamented in a remarkable manner by stalactites, resembling the arches and fantastic ornaments of a Gothic hall." According to a popular tradition, it is added, "the chieftain who first discovered this remarkable cave, while diving after a turtle, used it subsequently as a place of refuge for his mistress, to screen her from the persecution of the reigning despot. The sea faithfully guarded his secret; after a few weeks of seclusion, he fled with his beloved to the Fiji Islands, and on his returning to his native home, after the death of the tyrant, his countrymen heard, with astonishment, of the wonderful asylum that had been revealed to him by the beneficent sea gods."

In the chapter on "Marine Constructions" will be found accounts of the erection of the Eddystone, Bell Rock, and Skerryvore lighthouses, by Smeaton and Robert, and Alan Stevenson respectively, as well as brief notices of the Plymouth and Cherbourg Breakwaters. The difficulties in the way of constructing these works were enormous, but, to the honour of the engineering fraternity, they were at length surmounted, and the works remain among the greatest wonders of our age.

Part II. treats at great length of the "Inhabitants of the Sea," arranged in their several orders. We have neither time nor space to do full justice to the author's treatment of this portion of his work, which, by the way, forms the bulk of the volume. Certain chapters have been almost re-written, to wit, those on Molluscs and Coelenterata (Jelly-fishes, Polyps) while others again have been considerably enlarged. The appearance, habits, and construction of well nigh every living thing to be found in the ocean is fully described in this section of the work, which further contains abundant information on certain of the best known, and most profitable fisheries. The accounts of the Frog-fish and Hassar deserve perhaps to be quoted. "The Frog-fish of the Asiatic islands, and the southern hemisphere," says Dr. Hartwig, "is not more remarkable for its hideous deformity than for its capacity of leading a terrestrial life. Not only can it live several days out of the water, but it can crawl about the room in which it is confined, a facility which it owes to the great strength and the peculiar position of its pectoral fins, which thus perform the office of feet. The whole aspect of these grotesque looking creatures,

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particularly in a walking position, is so much like that of toads or frogs, that a careless observer would at first be at some loss to determine their real nature.

"A no less wonderful pedestrian is the Hassar (*Doras Costata*), a South American fish, that marches over land in search of water, travelling a whole night, when the pools dry up in which it commonly resides. It projects itself forwards on its bony pectoral fins, by the elastic spring of the tail, exerted sidewise, and in this manner proceeds nearly as fast as a man will leisurely walk. The strong scales or bands which envelope its body must greatly facilitate its march, in the manner of the plates under the belly of serpents, which are raised and depressed by a voluntary power, in some measure performing the office of feet. The Indians say justly these fishes supply themselves with water for their journey. If they find the pools and rivers everywhere dried up, they bury themselves in the mud, and fall into a kind of asphyxia or lethargy, till the rainy season recalls them again to life."

The way in which cod are "dressed down," or gutted, boned, and salted, is described as follows, the process occupying two or three hours and the crew being divided for the purpose into throaters, headers, splitters, salters, and packers.

"First the throater passes his sharp knife across the throat of the unfortunate cod to the bone, and rips open the bowels. He then passes it quickly to the header, who with a strong sudden wrench pulls off the head and tears out the entrails, which he casts overboard, passing at the same time the fish instantly to the spliter, who with one cut lays it open from head to tail, and almost in the twinkling of an eye with another cut takes out the backbone. After separating the sounds, which are placed with the tongues, and packed in barrels as a great delicacy, the backbone follows the entrails overboard, while the fish at the same moment is passed with the other hand to the salter. Such is the amazing quickness of the operations of heading and splitting that a good workman will often decapitate and take out the entrails and backbone of six fish in a minute. Every fisherman is supposed to know something of each of these operations, and no rivals at cricket ever entered with more ardour into their work than do some athletic champions for the palm of 'dressing down' after a day's catch."

The following of a sea-anemone is truly marvellous:—

"Dr. Johnson mentions a specimen of *Actinia Crassicornis* that might have been originally two inches in diameter, and that had somehow contrived to swallow a scallop-valve of the size of an ordinary saucer. The shell fixed within the stomach was so placed as to divide it completely into two halves, so that the body, stretched tensely over, had become thin and flattened like a pancake. All communication between the inferior portion of the stomach and the mouth was of course prevented; yet, instead of emaciating and dying of an atrophy, the animal had availed itself of what undoubtedly had been an untoward accident to increase its enjoyment and chances of double fare. A new mouth, furnished with two rows of numerous tentacula, was opened upon what had been the base and led to the under stomach; the individual had indeed become a sort of Siamese twin, but with greater intimacy and extent in its union."

We might go on almost to infinity making similar extracts to the foregoing, but the length to which this notice has already run, warns us that we must soon bring our remarks to a close.

Part III. treats of the "Progress of Maritime Discovery" from the days of the Phœnicians down to the latest voyages undertaken for the purposes of scientific investigation and research. This sketch will amply suffice for the ordinary reader, whose object is not so much the study of minute details, as to obtain a general idea of his subject. It only remains for us to say, of the numerous illustrations scattered throughout the volume, that they for the most part convey a sufficient idea of the objects they represent. In fine, Dr. Hartwig's book is a perfect storehouse of knowledge, and will, doubtless, find, as it deserves to find, a place in the library of every student of Natural History.

THE UPPER TEN THOUSAND.—An Alphabetical List of all Members of Noble Families, Bishops, Privy Councillors, Judges, Baronets, Members of the House of Commons, Lords-Lieutenant, Governors of Colonies, Knights and Companions of Orders, Deans and Archdeacons, and the superior officers of the Army and the Navy, with their official Description and Addresses. Compiled by Adam Bisset Thom. London: George Routledge and Sons, the Broadway. 1875.

WE are fully aware that no adequate idea can be formed of the enormous amount of patient labour which the compilation of a work of reference of this kind demands. It is, therefore all the more creditable to Mr. Thom, who has had charge of this very trying duty, that *The Upper Ten Thousand*, in the first year of its publication, should present so many evidences of care and judgment on the part of the Editor. The public are certainly indebted both to him and the publishers, for a handier, more compact, or better printed and better arranged list of our official and other public men does not, as far as we know, exist. Publications there are, of course, almost without number, which contain portions, perhaps the whole of the information, certainly combined in this volume. Most of them rest their claims for the approbation of the public upon some one or more special features. Thus, there are Peerages, Baronetages, and Knightages. Guides to the House of Commons, Court Guides, Official Handbooks, and the like. The information contained in many of them is naturally fuller and more detailed, for the space at their command is less limited. But the aim of Messrs. Routledge appears to have been to provide as far as possible, a work which should, in some measure, combine all the special features of other Guides and Companions. And so far as we have tested the work, we do not hesitate to say that a very fair amount of success has attended their efforts. It is not to be expected that such a compilation would be wholly free from errors of omission or commission, and as the compiler invites criticism, we take leave to point out one or two shortcomings which have occurred to us. There is no notice of the Countess of Carnarvon, deceased within the last few days. Sir Henry Sumner Maine was, we believe, Regius Professor of Civil Law at Cambridge in the early part of his career. This is not stated. Colonel Edward Romilly, deputy-Chairman of the Customs, is entitled, we think, to a separate notice, instead of appearing under the shadow of his wife's wing. Why, again, have inserted Baron Dimsdale and the Barons Rothschild and not Baron Grant, who sat for Kidderminster, if only for a brief period? Or do the former titles confer honour, while the latter is only a *barren grant*? But these inaccuracies, we are told, will be corrected in future editions. These suggestions are offered in the same spirit in which they are asked, and it only remains for us to add that *The Upper Ten Thousand* has our best wishes. We hope its course may be one of great and uninterrupted prosperity.

The History of a Ship, from her Cradle to her Grave. Illustrated. London: William Tegg and Co.

THIS is a new edition of an old favourite, and it will doubtless please the boys of this generation as much as it pleased many of us in our school days. The technical information is generally correct, although, by the bye, a cut of a topsail schooner (page 91) is erroneously described as a brigantine. Many of the engravings are very antiquated, and convey little or no idea of the shipping of the present day. We regret that the publishers have not thought it advisable to give the work a more complete overhaul than it appears to have had. A competent editor should have told his young readers something more of the marvellous changes which have taken place within the last twenty years in the Royal and Mercantile Marine than they will find in the Appendix on Steam Navigation. With all its shortcomings we can recommend the work, as well suited for a boy's library. The stories which run through it possess the fine old aroma of age, but they are perhaps none the worse for that. The engraving of the "Devastation" turret ship, which forms the frontispiece of the work, is a very accurate representation of this celebrated marine monster.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—This purifying and regulating medicine should occasionally be had recourse to during foggy, cold, and wet weather. These Pills are the best preventatives of hoarseness, sore throat, diphtheria, pleurisy, and asthma, and are sure remedies for congestion, bronchitis, and inflamation. A moderate attention to the directions folded round each box will enable every invalid to take the Pills in the most advantageous manner; they will there be taught the proper doses and the circumstances under which those must be increased or diminished. Holloway's Pills act as alteratives aperients, and tonics. A simple cold or catarrh, thoughtlessly neglected, too frequently creates a future of imminent danger, which these Pills, aided by persevering inunction of Holloway's Ointment on the surface, would avert.

GRATIFYING TESTIMONIALS.

We have great pleasure in stating that within the last few days two very gratifying testimonials have taken place; one to our highly-respected townsman, Mr. T. G. Palmer; and the other to a gentleman who, although not a resident, yet is well known to Cheltenham—viz.: Mr. Edward Trinder, of Cirencester. It appears that these two gentlemen have, for the last sixteen and eighteen years respectively, been high officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Freemasons of Gloucestershire, and that, as a great mark of the esteem in which both gentlemen are deservedly held, the governing body has presented to each of them a richly-chased salver, a claret jug, and two very handsome goblets. The following is a copy of the inscription on each article:—

THIS SALVER, A CLARET JUG AND TWO GOBLETS,
Were Presented by
THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE
TO BROTHER THOMAS GILL PALMER,
In recognition of his able discharge of the duties of Provincial Grand Treasurer during a period of 16 years. 28th May 1874.

The above testimonial to Mr. Palmer we hope will be a helping stone to a return to convalescence after his long and trying illness. The following is a copy of the inscription upon the articles presented to Mr. Trinder:—

THIS SALVER, A CLARET JUG AND TWO GOBLETS,
Were Presented by
THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE
TO BROTHER EDWARD TRINDER,
In recognition of his able discharge of the duties of Provincial Grand Secretary for 18 years. 28th May 1874.

We have little doubt but that the Masons generally will be pleased to hear of these pleasing testimonials.—*Cheltenham Chronicle.*

It is a mistake to suppose that the lady who concealed herself in a room where a "Lodge" was about to be held, and who, when discovered, was compelled to be initiated, is a myth. The "clock-case" may be a myth, but the lady was not. She was the Hon. Mrs. Aldworth, and continued through life to take an active interest in the Order into which in her youth she had so strangely gained admission. She founded Dublin Benevolent Institution for Orphan Daughters of Masons. Her portrait still hangs in the principal Lodge-room in Cork, and under it, in a glass case, the apron and jewel she used to wear when she attended Lodge meetings.—*Northampton Mercury.*

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THE THEATRES, &c.

COVENT GARDEN.—At 7.0, THE VIVANDIERE. At 7.45, THE BABES IN THE WOOD.

DRURY LANE.—At 7.0, TEN OF 'EM. At 7.30, ALADDIN.

HAYMARKET.—HOME, A FAIR ENCOUNTER and A SERIOUS FAMILY.

ADELPHI.—At 7.0, THE DREAM AT SEA and THE CHILDREN IN THE WOOD.

PRINCESS'S.—At 7.0, LOST IN LONDON and BEAUTY AND THE BEAST.

LYCEUM.—At 6.30, FISH OUT OF WATER. At 7.45, HAMLET.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.0, TWENTY MINUTES WITH A TIGER. AT 7.30, THE TWO ORPHANS.

STRAND.—At 7.0, INTRIGUE. At 7.30, OLD SAILORS. At 9.15, LOO AND THE PARTY WHO TOOK MISS.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 7.45, SWEETHEARTS and SOCIETY.

GAIETY.—AT 7.0, BENGAL TIGER. At 8.15, MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR.

GLOBE.—At 7.0, A PRETTY PIECE OF BUSINESS. At 8.0, BLUE BEARD.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.0, A WHIRLIGIG. At 7.45, OUR BOYS. At 10, ROMULUS AND REMUS.

CHARING CROSS.—At 7.30, MR. JOFFIN'S LATCH KEY. At 8.15, THE NEW MAGDALEN.

OPERA COMIQUE.—At 7.30, HOUSEHOLD FAIRY. At 8.15, LADY OF LYONS.

COURT.—At 7.30, DREADFULLY ALARMING. At 8, MAGGIE'S SITUATION. At 9, BRIGHTON.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.0, THE TWO BONNYCASTLES. At 7.45, WHITTINGTON.

CRITERION.—LES PRES SAINT GERVAIS, &c.

AMPHITHEATRE, HOLBORN.—At 7.0, THE BEGGAR'S OPERA. At 8.15, MADAME ANGOT.

SURREY.—FORTY THIEVES and THE SECRET.

PHILHARMONIC.—THE BOHEMIAN GIRL, &c.

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FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE

67 BARBICAN, E.C.

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

IT is highly gratifying to find that our hopes of last week are in a fair way of being realised, and that the health of Bro. Prince Leopold is improving. According to the latest bulletins, it would seem that His Royal Highness is slowly, but—we trust we may add—surely approaching convalescence. On the other hand, death has lately numbered among his victims the Countess of Carnarvon, wife of our highly esteemed Brother the M. Worshipful Pro. Grand Master. A few words of condolence with the Earl of Carnarvon on the subject of this terrible bereavement, will be found in another part of our columns.

It seldom happens at this season of the year that there is such an utter dearth of political news. We are on the very eve of the re-assembling of Parliament. The usual announcements have been made that the Ministerial and Opposition leaders have severally issued cards for the usual dinners which virtually inaugurate the proceedings of the Session—it seems strange we cannot enter even on the business of legislation without a preliminary banquet. Yet no one, save perhaps a few ultrapolitical enthusiasts, seems to concern himself as to the measures that will be discussed. No doubt, Her Majesty will graciously inform "My lords and gentlemen" that England is happily on terms of friendly intercourse with all foreign powers; that our Colonial Empire has been extended by the important addition of the Fiji Islands: that our finances are prospering, and that sundry reforms, all more or less desirable, will be proposed, with a view to simplifying the administration of the Law, for the better regulation of our Military Forces, and for the improvement of our Educational System. A bill for the better governance of Friendly Societies is also on the cards. But this, we think, will be the sum and substance of the Queen's Speech. A modicum of legislation, and no great fiscal changes. We may fairly congratulate ourselves on the prospect. Burning questions are oftentimes an intolerable nuisance, especially when the minds of men get overheated about them in the usually burning month of July. Of course, political meetings and demonstrations are occasionally held in the provinces, the most important within the last few days having occurred at Lewes, for the purpose of presenting a testimonial to the Right Honourable J. G. Dodson, lately M.P. for East Sussex, and Chairman of Committees of Ways and Means under five successive governments, and now representing the city of Chester. The testimonial consisted of the portrait of the right hon. gentleman, by Sir Francis Grant, P.R.A., together with a handsome service of plate. This recognition of valuable services, rendered not only to his party, but to his country likewise, as an important parliamentary official, must have been highly gratifying to its recipient; nor, we feel convinced, will any who differ politically from Mr. Dodson begrudge him this honour, to which he is so justly entitled. Liberals and Conservatives must feel equal pleasure when a long period of devotion to party and the State is thus acknowledged. One matter, to which we referred last week, is not, it seems, definitively settled. No successor to Mr. Gladstone, in the leadership of the Liberal party, has yet been appointed. A meeting, however, of members will be held at the Reform Club on the afternoon of Wednesday next, when the merits of the several claimants to the vacant honour will be considered. All we need say on such a subject is, *Detur digniori*. We may add that Parliament will be opened by Commission, and that the Address will be moved in the House of Lords by Lord Donnoughmore, and seconded by Lord Rayleigh; in the House of Commons by the Hon. E. Stanhope, member for Mid-Lincolnshire, and seconded by Mr. Whitelaw, member for Glasgow.

There is almost as great a dearth of news in the non-political as in the political world. Unhappily, there is one item which cannot fail to evoke the deepest feeling of regret. This is the strike and lock-out of colliers in South

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Wales. Let us hope, as the correspondent of one of our daily contemporaries suggests, that the struggle will be "short, sharp, and decisive." It is bad enough to find capital and labour arrayed against each other, instead of working cordially together; but infinitely worse will it be if the struggle be prolonged over any considerable period of time. It is hardly possible to realise the amount of suffering and misery which differences of this formidable character engender. When the strife is ended, and the men once again resume work, it matters little, as regards their pockets, whether they do so on their own terms or on those of their masters. The recollection of the poverty and wretchedness which they and their families have had to endure for weeks, or it may be months, is not easily obliterated. The loss of goods and money is not soon replaced; and in these cases poverty invariably brings with it a whole train of evils, not the least terrible among which is disease. We are more convinced than ever of the value of Mr. Brassey's suggestion, that courts of arbitration or conciliation should be erected in London, and in our several industrial centres, with a view, either to prevent, if possible, these strikes and lock-outs, or, if that be impracticable, to hasten the settlement of all disputes between employers and the employed. As for the professional agitators who stump the country, and presume to tell the labouring man what are his rights, what his claims upon his employer, what number of hours he should work, and what are the just wages of labour, in a trade of which, in ninety-nine cases out of every hundred, they are absolutely ignorant, we think if a few of these fellows were dragged through the nearest horsepond, and then slung up to a convenient lamp-post for an hour or two to dry, it would be a great gain to the masters and men. Why cannot the Trades' Union Congress suggest something in order to avoid strikes? What is the good of Trades' Unions if they cannot prevent these differences?

What is an Antediluvian Buffalo? We should say not a member of a friendly society. On Wednesday, in the Bail Court of Queen's Bench, was heard a case of assault, in which one Buffalo had struck another Buffalo a violent blow on the head, and the latter claimed damages. It seems there is, in the classic neighbourhoods of Kennington and Walworth, an Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes, the members of which are variously designated, some as "Kangaroos," some as "Primos." We see no direct connection between marsupials and numerals, but that, of course, matters little to the buffaloes who do. But, to our assault case. At a Lodge meeting of the Order, held on the 1st October last, at the house of Buffalo Higgs—the Queen's Head, Amelia-street, Walworth-road—the election of a "Primo" was held. The *locale* of such elections, it seems, is the kitchen, whence, the ceremony having been duly performed, the members return in procession to the club room, there, no doubt, to regale themselves after the severe labours of their ritual. Among the brethren present was Buffalo Parker, of the Horns Tavern Tap, Kennington, who joined the procession, adorned as to his head with a dish cover. Whether this kind of head ornament was particularly obnoxious to Buffalo Higgs, or the latter was more than usually elated at the initiation of a new "Primo" Buffalo, is not on the record. At all events, Buffalo Higgs struck Buffalo Parker so tremendous a blow with a rolling-pin, that the latter, even with the protection of his dish cover suffered severely for a long time afterwards, and on Wednesday claimed compensation for his injury to the tune of £40. The jury, however, viewed the matter as a joke, unintentionally carried a little too far, and gave their verdict for the defendant. We hardly think we shall join this Order of Buffaloes. Certainly not, if ornamenting our head with a dish-cover, and getting a whack thereon from a rolling-pin, form any part of the ordinary ceremonial.

Abroad the political atmosphere is far from clear. In France the ministerial crisis appears to be in abeyance, and the Assembly is still discussing the Constitutional Bill, the most important variation from this programme, of which we have heard, being the Lucifer Matches Bill. Considering the fiery character of French Constitutional Debates, we should have thought the intervals between the various stages of discussion might have been devoted to the study of something less inflammable than Lucifers. Garibaldi has entered Rome, and has of course, met with a hearty reception. We do not say the General is responsible for certain demonstrations, but why does he not do his best to discountenance them? The Pope still reigns in the Vatican, and to put the matter lightly, it is very questionable taste to even seem to sanction such popular manifestations against His Holiness, who is head of the Romish branch of the Catholic Church, and should command our respect. What if a year hence the Pope passed through Rome in triumph and the fickle populace "demonstrated" against King Victor Emanuel to General Garibaldi? Virtue, says the Roman poet,

> Intaminatis fulget honoribus,
> Nec sumit aut ponit secures
> Arbitrio popularis aurse.

We are not in the secrets either of His Majesty the Sultan of Turkey or of the Prince of Montenegro, but it is satisfactory to learn from less direct, yet still, we believe, trustworthy sources, that "their little difficulty" is in a fair way of being settled amicably. The Turks and Montenegrins who might have become "food for powder" have been dismissed to their homes, and the cloud, "no bigger than a man's hand," which overhung the almost irrepressible Eastern Question has momentarily disappeared. No news from Spain. Shall we regard this as good news, or is the present calm only the proverbial forerunner of some tremendous storm? By the way, it is always ostentatiously announced in the Spanish journals that the king pays a visit to one, if not more churches in every town he passes though. We do not doubt the king's devotion to religion, but the constant iteration of this news would almost seem to convey the idea that Alphonso is performing an act of royal condescension towards the Almighty in thus visiting His Holy Temples.

Sorrow invariably evokes the finest feelings of our nature. We are convinced that every member of the Craft will deeply sympathise with Worshipful Pro. Grand Master the Right Honourable the Earl of Carnarvon in the irreparable loss he has just sustained by the death of his wife. The circumstances attending her ladyship's illness, which has terminated thus fatally, enhance, if that be possible, the great sorrow he must feel. It is not for us to pass the limit which properly divides the private from the public life of any of our brethren. We should have felt, however, that we had omitted an important duty, had we not found some expression for the sympathy we feel towards his lordship in these moments of his grievous distress.

Naval gunnery must always be a subject of the highest importance to this country. Where we cannot vie with foreign nations in our land forces, and in the number of our field guns, it is the more necessary that the strong arm we do possess—our navy—should be furnished with the *ne plus ultra* of offensive and defensive weapons. England must not only not have a gun second to any other nation, she must have one infinitely better, if possible. Thus naval armaments are continually changing. One gun is substituted for another, breech-loaders supplant muzzle-loaders, and these are once more superseded by the former kind. We imagine that we have now discovered, by experiment, the best gun for our navy—a muzzle-loader. The "last new thing" in naval guns is one that will have a bore of 24 feet in length, a diameter of 16 inches, will throw a shot of 1,600 lbs. weight, with a charge of 300 lbs. of powder, a distance of 7 miles. The total weight of the gun will be 81 tons. With four of these monsters the "Inflexible" is to be armed, and we can form some idea of her floating powers, when, in addition to this weight of 324 tons, she will be defended by armour 24 inches in thickness. Such a gun as we have described would appear to leave all previously manufactured in the shade. The "Woolwich Infant," hitherto regarded with much awe, measures about 13¼ feet of bore, and weighs only 35 tons. If we jump from 35 tons to 81 at one bound, what will be our next performance, should other nations produce something better? Already we hear of 100 ton guns *in prospectu*, though their destination is not yet generally known. We doubt whether it would be possible in our times to keep armaments in a stationary condition. Whatever happens, England must and, no doubt, will have the best gun that can be made.

Within the last few years the Bicycle has become a very prominent feature in athletic sports. About the year 1870, the improved machine now in common use made its first appearance. Within so short a time as thirteen years

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perfection in this particular article has been reached. It is perhaps owing to the simplicity of its structure that this is the case, for the improvements in it since 1862 have been confined to the height of the "driving" wheel, and the reduction in weight of the bicycle. In that year the ordinary diameter of the driving wheel was not more than from 30 to 35 inches, whilst the weight of the machine ranged from 80 lbs to one cwt. Dating about five years back wonderful improvements were effected—we find that with a diameter of wheel varying from 50 to 60 inches, the total weight of the bicycle has assumed an inverse ratio to the wheel, and scales now but 35 to 50 lbs. Regarding bicycling as an exercise, such improvements as these are most beneficial—greater pace is acquired with less exertion. The value of such a condition must be evident when we find men making a journey from Bath to London (106 miles) in a little over eight hours, whilst innumerable races to Brighton and back have taken place. The climax of distance was reached, however, when four members of the Middlesex Bicycle Club made a journey of 800 miles, from London to John-o'-Groat's in fourteen days, averaging 60 miles a day. The most striking feature in this method of travelling is, however, *pace*. We hear of a mile having been traversed in three minutes—the quickest time on record, and the exploit of an *amateur*, the Hon. J. Keith Falconer, who this week contended in a 25 mile race with Mr. Whiting, a gentleman who has held the Amateur Bicycle Championship three years. The pace, 25 miles in 1 hour 41 minutes 28 seconds, is not held to have been particularly fast, though remarkably pleasant for travelling. The race ended in the victory of Mr. Whiting by about 100 yards. Leaving the "racing" phrase of bicycling out of the question, we consider it a healthy and enjoyable exercise, and we feel almost tempted to pay our next annual visit to the "Derby" on a 60 inch "driver."

It is with great pleasure we call the attention of our readers to the active interest which our East-End Brethren exhibit in the most important of all Masonic duties—Benevolence. One of our young Lodges, Duke of Edinburgh, No. 1259, by the hands of one of its representatives, Bro. S. Weatherill P.M., contributed, on the occasion of the present festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, no less a sum than £165.

Bro. George Belmore, the talented comedian, announces his benefit, at the Princess's Theatre, on the 2nd February, when a very attractive programme will be presented.

Several suggestions have been made as to the most convenient place for the Installation of the Prince of Wales as Grand Master, and for the Banquet to follow in commemoration thereof. The Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot referred to the subject at the dinner of the Benevolent Institution, proposing the Albert Hall for the Installation, and the Agricultural Hall for the Banquet; or one or both at the Alexandra Palace; or, as a third alternative, the Installation at the Albert Hall, and the Banquet at the Crystal Palace.

The employment of 100,000 men, the support of about 500,000 people, are the immediate sources of concern which hinge upon the South Wales Strike. The result of the deliberations now going on between masters and men is looked for with considerable anxiety; for it is hardly possible that, should the former persist in their decision of a lock-out, the crisis will pass without serious disturbances. The last meeting of the Monmouth and South Wales Collieries Association unanimously adopted this policy. A few days only intervene before their decision will take effect. On the part of the colliers there appears to exist a difference with their employers which may materially increase the difficulties of a settlement. They wish to be treated with in three distinct classes, according to the character of the coal raised. The coal owners have united to oppose the partial strikes which this system would produce, and seem determined to settle disputes with their *employés* by one, and only one course of action, whatever that may have to be. The reduction in the rate of wages of the miners is, as we all know, the bone of contention in this dispute. The falling off in the demand for coal and iron of late has necessitated a reduction in wages. This does not appear to have been very strongly objected to in the instance of its first application. But a further reduction of 10 per cent. is the present *casus belli* of the miners, who consider that circumstances do not justify such a reduction, and hence the strike. In regarding the case between the masters and the men, we must remember that until a re-action set in a little while since, on the one hand, the wages of colliers had, in some cases, been raised 100 per cent.; on the other, there is no doubt that, owing to slack trade and other causes, the masters have worked many of their pits at a loss. In this state of things men must be prepared to "give and take," and some such policy, we trust, will dictate a reasonable settlement of the difficulty.

Bro. F. Burgess, manager of the Moore and Burgess Minstrels, announces his Annual Benefit for Tuesday afternoon and evening, 2nd February. A special programme has been arranged. The usual company will appear in several novelties, and, in addition, the following talented artistes have consented to give their valuable assistance, viz., Miss Angelina Claud, Mr. E. Terry, Miss Russell, M. Marius, Mr. Lionel Brough, Miss Eliza Chapman, Miss Bella Moore (Mrs. Fred. Vokes), Mr. John Morris and Messrs. Chevers and Kennedy.

We are indebted to Mr. Riley's preface to *Liber Albus* for the following account of the wages paid to the different classes of artisans employed in building. Carpenters, masons, plasterers, tilers, and daubers (*luti appositores*) all appear to have received similar wages, and according to the following scale:—Between Michaelmas and Martinmas (11th November), 4d per day, or 1½d and their "table;" between Martinmas and Purification (2nd February), 3d per day, or 1d and "table;" and between Purification and Easter, 4d per day, or 1½d and "table," and between Easter and Michaelmas, 5d per day, or 2d and "table." Saturdays and vigils were paid for as whole days. Servants or underworkmen received—between Michaelmas and Easter 2d, and between Easter and Michaelmas, 3d per day in payment of all demands. If any person paid a workman beyond these rates he had to pay to the City a fine of 40s, and the workman was subjected to imprisonment for forty days. About seventy years later the wages of certain of the above appear to have increased. Masons, carpenters, plasterers, and sawyers received 6d per day during the long and 5d in the winter days, but they were not permitted to charge for the repair of implements. Tilers received 5½d and 4½d in the summer and winter half-years respectively; the wages of their boys (*garcons*) being 3½d and 3d. Master daubers were paid 5d and 4d; their boys being remunerated at the same rate as those of the tilers.

"WHAT, THEN, IS MASONRY?"

We reply, it is much; it is of the utmost importance, or it is nothing at all.

It is nothing to the vulgar man or to the wicked. It is much to the sensible and to the virtuous man. It is nothing, any more than colours to the blind, music to the deaf, poetry and fine arts to brutes, to the ambitious, to the avaricious, the egotistical, the untrue. It is much to the sensible, sincere and generous man, who knows the ills of humanity and would remedy them.

She is neither a plot, a faction, or a party; she serves the ambition, the cunning, or the cruelty of no one.

She is order and truth in all things; she is the hatred of vice, the love of virtue: she is the living voice, saying: "Do not unto others that which you would not others should do unto you;" on the contrary, "Do as you would be done by." She is the calm amid the tempest, a lighthouse in a shipwreck, consolation in misfortune, the antidote against every kind of tyranny, fanaticism and lies. In a word, she is the true bond of nations, the preserver of that moral balance the wicked would destroy. Thus, she is everything to those who understand her, nothing to those whose souls are dead—or, rather, she is the mirror in which they dare not look.

What was she, in ancient times, for Tiberius, for Caligula, for Nero? Just what she is now for those who resemble them.

Some one has said that Masonry was a religion. That is true, if we may apply the name to an institution that leaves no doubt after it, that opens no door to argument on

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her principles and precepts. It is the clearest, the simplest of all religions—that which has the nearest affinity to the good sense with which Heaven has endowed us, and, on this account, it is not to be confounded with the others. Read and judge. All religions take charge of a man at his birth, and keep him in charge till he dies. Masonry, on the contrary, only accepts a man when he has arrived at mature age, and when his intelligence enables him to appreciate the value of things. A given ceremony makes an infant a portion of a given church, as, for example, circumcision or baptism make him a Jew or a Christian, before he is in any way capable of understanding the prescribed dogmas of these sects. The baptism of Masonry is science and virtue—the initiate hears and understands what is said to him; the lamp of reason is placed in his own hands. By the aid of science he is taught everything that God has designed man should know to distinguish good from evil, the true from the false, liberty from license, courage from cowardice, honesty from fraud, generosity from cruel egotism.

By virtue he learns to subdue the obstacles arising from ignorance or dishonesty. It is the baptism of honour and knowledge; it is initiation in the dignity, the grandeur of humanity; certainly no religion can lead us nearer the Deity.

Men are so curiously organised that nearly every one believes his neighbour's religion to be false. Yet no man, except through ignorance or folly, can make the same accusation against Masonry, for she is the touchstone of all truth, as every one who knows her must be convinced. Religions, whether true or false, are protected by Sovereigns, and sustained by the treasure of the people. Masonry depends upon herself, and God who created light. Religions lead their chiefs to power, opulence and to greatness. Masonry confers neither greatness, riches or power; it is the only priesthood that costs the people nothing; it is the army that makes war at its own expense, hence it may be justly called the army of the good against the bad, of the brave and true against the cowardly and perfidious. Such soldiers look not for their reward at the hands of men; they find it in the consciousness of well-doing, which is, after all, true happiness.

In conclusion, we repeat these words, becoming daily of greater truth:—"Teach and propagate true Masonry, and you will have rendered the world a greater service than all its legislators."—JAS. L. ENAS, *New York Democrat*.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All Letters and communications must be addressed to the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, *67 Barbican, London, E.C.*

P. M. OF 4 LODGES.—Many thanks for your good wishes, your suggestion has been made before, but there are many objections to it, not the least being the diminished value of the volume to advertisers, whose interests we are bound to consider.

J. E., ROTHES.—We have sent two parcels to you, but both have been returned through the post. Kindly forward full address.

G. H. S.—We regret the omission; you shall hear from us on the matter you complain of.

CORRESPONDENCE.

All Letters must bear the name and address of the Writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.

ST. ALBANS LODGE, No. 678.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BRO.—In reply to your query, allow me to confirm your statement that the late Bro. Edwards was a member of the St. Alban's Lodge, No. 678. As a matter of fact, he joined that Lodge soon after its formation in 1839, and continued his membership up to the time when the Lodge, through various causes, was allowed to lapse. When the formation of the Halsey Lodge was spoken of, although well advanced in life, he gladly came forward and gave his valuable aid to restore to the old town of St. Albans her lost prestige in the Masonic world, for I need scarcely remind you that we have it on good authority that Freemasonry was unknown in England until introduced by Saint Alban, and there is every reason to believe that the first Masonic Lodge in England was held at St. Albans.

If Bro. Haigh contented himself by simply looking through the present Calendar for St. Albans Lodge No. 678, he would be unable to find it, as Grand Lodge after a certain time elapsed would erase the Lodge from the Register.

Dear Sir and Bro., yours fraternally,

THE W.M. OF THE HALSEY LODGE, No. 1479.

St Albans, 28th January 1875.

A FREEMASONS' LIFEBOAT.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

Sir,—The attention of the Craft having been called to the "Endowment" of the Freemasons' Lifeboat stationed at North Berwick, I hope soon to see a list of contributors announced in your columns, for the cause needs no special pleading.

The Secretary of the National Lifeboat Institution has stated that the annual cost of maintaining the Freemasons' Lifeboat is £70.

Presuming there are no restrictions to the nature of investment, a secure 5 per cent. interest may be had; at such rate £1,400 is necessary to produce the sum required. Now, if each Lodge and Chapter would contribute the sum of, say £1, the total amount required would thus be easily aggregated. An appeal to the Lodges and Chapters is, to my thinking, the better means of securing the end, as the benevolent of our Order are too frequently over-taxed. Under your advice, and amongst your supporters, a committee should be formed, with a view to further organisation, and to solicit Bro. Solomon Davis, of 230 Whitechapel-road, either to act with the committee, or to hand over to it the money in his possession, amounting, as stated, to upwards of £22. It is probable that Bro. Davis has not heard of your publication, or the suggestions for endowment. I therefore advise that copies relating to the subject be sent to him.

At the next meeting of my Lodge I shall plead the cause, and with success, I am confident, for the deserving are never sent empty away.

I am, Sir, your fraternally,

25th January 1875. A W.M.

230 Whitechapel-road,
26th January 1875.

DEAR SIR AND BRO.—By last evening's post I received four numbers of your valuable journal, which placed me in possession of the correspondence under the above heading. I am gratified that Past Master's mind assimilates with mine in the matter of Lifeboats, &c. I enclose copies of four letters marked 1, 2, 3, 4, as per dates, for the benefit of "P.M." and your readers in general. Unfortunately, long and severe illness prevented my taking any active measures for the purpose of receiving subscriptions for the endowment of the "Freemasons' Lifeboat," but, as my health is improving, I trust shortly to take the matter up with renewed energy, and shall be glad if "P.M." and other brethren will forward to me their names and addresses, with a view to assisting in carrying out so laudable an undertaking.

I am, Sir, yours fraternally,

SOLOMON DAVIS,
Promoter and Treasurer of the
"Freemasons' Lifeboat Fund."

Royal National Lifeboat Institution,
11th April 1872.

DEAR SIR,—Referring to your very kind enquiry, whether the sum of £500, in addition to the gift of £422 16s 6d from the Freemasons to this Institution, would be deemed sufficient for the permanent endowment of the Freemasons' Lifeboat establishment at North Berwick, N.B., I beg to say that I will advise you more fully on that subject after I have taken the opinion of this Committee thereon, at their next meeting. In the meantime, I trust you will allow me to assure you and other members of the Lodge, how very much we appreciate your benevolent wishes on the subject, and the warm interest you evidently continue to take in the welfare of the Lifeboat cause.

I am, yours faithfully,

Mr. S. Davis. R. LEWIS.

Royal National Lifeboat Institution,
3rd May 1872.

DEAR SIR,—With reference to your kind enquiry, whether the National Lifeboat Institution would accept from the Freemasons the sum of £500, for the permanent endowment of their Lifeboat stationed at North Berwick, N.B. I now have the honour to acquaint you, that the Committee appreciate very much this additional mark of sympathy and support from yourself and other members, on behalf of the Lifeboat cause, and to say that they are prepared, under the circumstances, to accept the £500 for the special purpose of endowing the Freemasons' Lifeboat.

I am, yours faithfully,

Mr. S. Davis. R. LEWIS.

Southampton,
29th September 1872.

MY DEAR SIR AND BRO.—I am now in London nearly every Tuesday. Being there on the 5th September, Thursday, I attended the within named meeting, at the Railway Tavern. For although I knew the 3rd of September, or the Thursday, was a mistake, I concluded Thursday, being printed, would be sure to be right. However, the people at the Tavern told me the meeting had been held on the Tuesday. Since then I had your note from Birmingham, and wrote to say I should be happy to attend any Tuesday or Thursday after next week, when I shall be in Manchester. If it is necessary I will be President, or do anything to support you.

Believe me, yours truly,

J. R. STEBBINGS.

1 Canning-street, Liverpool,
15th November 1872.

DEAR SIR AND BRO.—Excuse my delay in answering yours. You have my full consent to place me upon the Committee, and I will do my best to further the good cause. As regards the £20 I got from the Prov. G.L., I returned it to the Treasurer, but I have no doubt at our next provincial meeting it could be again obtained. I am sorry to hear that you have been unwell, but hope by this time you have perfectly recovered your health. Accept my best wishes and kind regards.

Yours very truly,

P. H. D. JOHNSON,
P.M. 249, 1094, P.P.G. &c.

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DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be greatly obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the kingdom would favour us with a copy of their summonses each time of issue.

SATURDAY, 30th JANUARY.

1462—Wharncliffe, Rose and Crown Hotel, Pemstone, Yorks.

MONDAY, 1st FEBRUARY.

12—Fortitude and Old Cumberland, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
25—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall.
69—Unity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
72—Royal Jubilee, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
93—United Lodge of Prudence, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
144—St. Luke's—Mason's Hall, Mason's-avenue, Basinghall-street.
188—Joppa, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
256—Unions, Freemasons' Hall.
1319—Asaph, Freemasons' Hall.

134—Unanimity, Masonic Hall, Wakefield, Yorks.
1311—Goderich, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
1339—Wentworth, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
1302—De Warren, Masonic Hall, Halifax, Yorks.
K. T. 39—Faith, Masonic Hall, Bradford.

TUESDAY, 2nd FEBRUARY.

Colonial Board at 3, Freemasons' Hall.
7—Royal York, Freemasons' Hall.
18—Old Dundee, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
141—Temple, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
173—Old Concord, Freemasons' Hall.
217—Stability, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
765—St. James', Bridge House Hotel, Southwark.
1329—Duke of Edinburgh, Cape of Good Hope Tavern, Commercial-road.
1381—Golden Rule, Cafe Royal, Regent-street.
1788—Royal Standard, Marquess Tavern, Canonbury.
1381—Kennington, Surrey Tavern, Kennington-oval.
1397—Anerly, Thicket Hotel, Anerley.
1473—Hemley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich.
R. A. 145—Prudent Brethren, Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 169—Temperance, White Swan Tavern, Deptford.
R. A. 507—United Pilgrims, Horns Tavern, Kennington.

70—St. John, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
265—Royal Yorkshire, Masonic Hall, Keighley, Yorks.
1470—Chiltern, Town Hall, Dunstable (emergency).
R. A. 296—Loyalty, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
R. A. 600—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Bradford, Yorks.

WEDNESDAY, 3rd FEBRUARY.

Grand Chapter at 7, Freemasons' Hall.
511—Zetland, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
1491—Athenæum, The Athenæum, Camden-road, Holloway, N.

536—Franklin, Peacock Hotel, Boston.
R. A. 259—Amphibious, Freemasons' Hall, Heckmondwike.
R. A. 304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Leeds.

THURSDAY, 4th FEBRUARY.

10—Westminster and Keystone, Freemasons' Hall.
27—Egyptian, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
45—Strong Man, Mason's Hall, Mason's-avenue, Basinghall-street.
192—Lion and Lamb, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
227—Ionic, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
231—St. Andrews, Freemasons' Hall.
538—La Tolerance, Freemasons' Hall.
554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
822—Victoria Rifles, Freemasons' Hall.
1178—Perfect Ashlar, Gregorian Arms, Bermondsey-road.
1351—St. Clement's Danes, King's Head Hotel, St. Clement's Danes, Strand.
1446—Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tavern, Sandringham-road, Kingsland.
R. A. 2—St. James', Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 9—Moriah, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
R. A. 176—Cavvac, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.

269—Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
974—Pentalpha, Freemasons' Hall, Bradford.
1231—Savile, Royal Hotel, Elland, Yorks.
1513—Friendly, King's Head, Barnsley, Yorks.

R. A. 275—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield.
R. A. 1214—Scarboro', Station Hotel, Upper Soothill, near Batley, Yorks.

FRIDAY, 5th FEBRUARY.

706—Florence Nightingale, Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich.
860—Hornsey, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
1469—Marquess of Ripon, Metropolitan Asylum, Ballspond-road.
R. A. 8—British, Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 259—Prince of Wales, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.

242—St. George's, Town Hall, Doncaster.
308—Alfred, 23 Albion-street, Leeds.
1521—Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Huddersfield.
837—De Gray and Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon, Yorks.
R. A. 81—Sincerity, Masonic Hall, Halifax, Yorks.

SATURDAY, 6th FEBRUARY.

General Committee, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
142—St. Thomas's, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

Quarterly meeting of Grand Lodge, 1st February.
MONDAY—129—St. Kentigern, Royal Hotel, Penicuik.
TUESDAY—5—Canongate and Leith (L. and C.), 86 Constitution-street
THURSDAY—97—St. James, St. James Hall, Written-court.
FRIDAY—291—Celtic of Edinburgh and Leith, Ship Hotel, East Register-street.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Grand Masters' Lodge, No. 1.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, 18th inst., at the Freemasons' Hall. There was a large attendance of visitors (32), the W.M. Bro. W. A. Colls opened the Lodge about 4.30, supported by G. Payne W.M elect, G. N. Johnson J.W., E. Thompson D.D. Chaplain, J. W. Case P.M. and G.S. Secretary, F. F. Smith I.G., and the following brethren, R. Rawson P.D.G.M. China D.C., R. Gooding M.D., Sir J. H. Glover, V. L. Smith, W. C. Smith, H. C. Lumley, S. Hyam, Alderman T. Paterson, T. H. Fitch, S. Freeman, F. Halford, Douglas Straight, and the following Past Masters, E. Bayley, W. S. Gover, H. Lumley, W. H. Trego, Sir Francis Wyatt Truscott and Heather Bigg. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. S. Freeman and Captain Sir J. H. Glover having answered the usual questions were entrusted and retired. The Lodge was opened in second degree, and Bros. Glover and Freeman were passed to the Fellow Crafts Degree. Bro. Douglas Straight, after undergoing an examination in this degree, was entrusted and retired; the Lodge was opened in third degree, and Bro. Straight was raised to that degree, also during the evening two gentlemen were initiated into the Order. The Lodge having been resumed in the second degree, Bro. G. Payne, the W.M. elect, was installed into the chair of K.S., according to ancient custom. The Master Masons being re-admitted, the W.M. was saluted in the third degree, and the officers were invested as follows:—G. N. Johnson S.W., Girard Treasurer, J. M. Case Secretary, R. Gooding S.D., Lumley I.G. The Lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to banquet, where a most pleasant evening was spent, and the brethren and visitors were entertained with some most delightful music, both vocal and instrumental, under the direction of Bro. G. Caravoglia, by the following eminent artists:—Miss Jose Sherrington and Miss Helen D'Alton, Signor, Rizzelli, Mr. Miles Bennett and Bro. Caravoglia. Solo pianoforte Mr. Lindsay Sloper. Miss Sherrington sung the shadow song from "Dinorah," and being enthusiastically encored, sung, with great expression, "Home, Sweet Home." Bro. Caravoglia sang the "Cavatina" from the opera *Il Barbière Rossini*. The following were among the visitors:—Duke De Marigna, also a Foreign Count, Bro. J. Lilburn No. 1 S.C., F. F. Girard P.M. 138, F. A. Payne 862, G. S. Smith 163, F. Crossley P.P.G.S. W. Derby, S. Rosenthal P.P.S.G.W. Middlesex, W. L. Rosenthal P.P.G.C. Staffordshire, H. Dicketts P.G.S.W. Middlesex, J. Harris 201, J. G. Dunn 192, E. Smith 219, H. Robinson W.M. elect 235, W. Lemon W.M. 165, F. H. Fuller P.M. 1152, T. Fifoot 28, H. Muggeridge P.G.P., A. G. Browning 33, G. Savage 46, J. W. Vaughan P.M. 907, E. Moody P.M. 1426, C. Shoppee 162, R. Shoppee 382.

Pythagorean Lodge, No. 79.—The installation meeting of this old established Lodge was held on Monday, the 25th inst., at The Ship, Greenwich. The Lodge was opened by Bro. H. Roberts W.M., and after the report of the audit committee had been adopted, which showed the Lodge to be in a very prosperous condition, he resigned the chair to Bro. John Robert Nash I.P.M., who installed Bro. C. M. Munyard into the chair of K.S. in a very impressive and efficient manner. There was a goodly attendance, about 60, including an array of visitors, who are always welcome to this Lodge, amongst whom we noticed E. J. B. Bumstead P.M. 548, H. Lewis P.M. 907, C. Jardine W.M. 140, H. Towse 959, H. Whitley P.M. 944, &c., &c.

Prudent Brethren Lodge, No. 145.—The installation meeting of this excellent Lodge was held on Tuesday, the 26th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Bro. T. Bull in the chair, supported by the Wardens, Officers, and a numerous assemblage of brethren and visitors. Past Masters J. Boyd, J. Last, W. Watson, Moore and Watson. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed, including those of the Emergency Meeting of 12th January. A Board of Installed Masters was formed, and Bro. Purkess S.W. and W.M. elect, was duly installed by the retiring W.M., Bro. T. Bull, in a very effective manner. The W.M. having been saluted, appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. T. Bull I.P.M., Thiellay S.W., Moult J.W., J. Boyd P.G.P. Treasurer, G. S. States P.G.S. Secretary, Manby Assistant Secretary, Haslett S.D., Hughes J.D., Leggott I.G., Lewis W.S., Lister D.C., Wilkinson Assistant D.C. and Grant Tyler. The newly installed W.M. then showed his proficiency for the office to which he had been elected, initiating Messrs. Dowding, Weeks, and Wayre into the Order in a very able manner. Bro. T. Bull having consented to act as Steward on the 27th inst. for the R. M. B. Institution the sum of £10 was placed on his list from the funds of the Lodge. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren, 67 in number, adjourned to the Crown Room, where a sumptuous banquet was provided by Bro. Francatelli, and superintended by Bro. Knill. The W.M. proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, including that of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales G.M. Bro. John Boyd P.M. and P.G.P., responded to the toast of the Grand Officers in a very eloquent speech. Bro. T. Bull I.P.M., in proposing the toast of the W.M., alluded to his working the ceremony of initiation immediately following his installation, and that was sufficient to show that he was one who would carry out every duty the Lodge required of him. The W.M. suitably replied. In the course of the evening a very pleasant circumstance occurred. Bro. J. Boyd P.M. Treasurer and P.G.M. having spoken of the merits of that noble institution, "The Margate Sea Bathing Infirmary," and had collected the sum of £9 2s 6d, the Right Hon. Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot D.G.M. for Staffordshire was presiding in the Hall, and he presented that sum to the noble Earl, who was so pleased, that his lordship, accompanied by Bros. S. Tomkins Grand Treasurer, Major Creaton P.G.D., L. Tomkins jun. P.G.D., J. Nunn P.G.S.B. honoured the brethren by their presence, and received an enthusiastic reception from the brethren. The toast of the newly initiated followed. Bro. J. Boyd P.G.P. then rose and said: He had been entrusted with the gavel by the W.M. to propose the next toast, which was indeed an important one, viz., that of the visitors; on this occasion they were numerous, but they had an accession by the noble and distinguished brethren who had honoured the Lodge by their presence, and although many brethren who were visitors had done good service to the Craft, yet the visit of those brethren would be an advent in the annals of the Lodge, all the members of which were proud to see them among them. (Loud cheers.) The R. W. the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, on rising to respond to the toast, was greeted with loud acclamations, and the genial and happy

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manner in which his lordship addressed the brethren afforded great gratification; he then stated he had been doing, he hoped, his duty down stairs, and he had to thank Bro. J. Nunn for his introduction to the Lodge. He had to take the chair to-morrow evening, at the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and he was pleased to see how the brethren of the Lodge enjoyed themselves, and also was delighted to hear the brother who had so ably recited the last poem (Bro. Walter Joyce), as it was composed by a member of his own county. He, the Earl, had done, he hoped, some service for the Boys and Girls' Schools, and he was now going to support the aged, lest they should slip through his fingers, and, in speaking of the Earl of Carnarvon, he hoped, as he was about writing to him, to convey to his lordship the sympathy of the brethren on his sad bereavement. He begged, in the name of the visiting brethren, to tender them his sincere thanks. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the Past Masters, and alluded to their services; but on this occasion he had to speak of the one who had preceded him, viz., Bro. Bull, who not only during his year of office had performed his duties admirably, but he had also the honour of being installed by him. He had carried out in every respect the duties required of him, and he was proud, in the name of the Lodge, to present him with a gold Past Master's jewel; he hoped he might live long to enjoy it (cheers). Bro. Bull suitably returned thanks for the valuable gift, and, in the course of his speech, said how nobly the Lodge had contributed to the various charities, and he hoped at future times to see them Vice-Presidents of those three noble institutions. The toasts of the Treasurer, Secretary, Wardens, and Officers followed, and were duly responded to, and the Tyler's toast concluded a very agreeable evening, greatly contributed to by the distinguished visitors who were present. The W. M. provided a very delightful musical entertainment, in which Miss Kate Wild, Mdlle. Bartkowska, Bros. G. Carter and Theodore Distin rendered their valuable assistance. Bro. Walter Joyce gave "The Charge of the Light Brigade." The visitors were Bros. C. Horsley P.G.R. (Middlesex), H. Dicketts P.G.S., Kirby P.G.S., J. Baker P.M. 753, W. H. Jacobs P.M. 27, Kirby P.G.S., Hunt P.M. 800, Price 946, Fendick, Bebb, White 177, Phillips 1305, Dayson, Bell 28, E. Swanborough 1319, Walter Joyce, Bill 9, W. Platt P.M. 23, Venn (Tuscan Lodge), &c., Jones, Fendick, Rance 268, and H. M. Levy P.M. 188.

Temperance Lodge, No. 169.—This Lodge held its installation meeting on Thursday, 21st inst., at the White Swan Tavern, High-street, Deptford. There were present Bro. T. Littlecott P.M. W.M., Bro. T. Dingle S.W., T .Debac J.W. G. Brown P.M. Treasurer, J. Tibbals P.M. Secretary, J. G. Neald S.D., C. Denton J.D., G. Bolton P.M., J. Rosenstock I.P.M., Bros. J. Orr, G. Murray, W. Baker, J. Lackerriasen, W. Wilton, W. Harris, J. Beddoe, J. Dawson, A. B. Dawson and H. Cooper. The Lodge was opened in first degree, and the minutes of Lodge held in December read and confirmed. Bros. Baker, Wallis, and Wilton having answered the usual questions were entrusted and retired, and the Lodge being opened in the second degree, these brethren were passed to the degree of Fellow Crafts. The W.M. elect, Bro. Dingle, was then installed, and the Lodge having been resumed to first degree, he appointed and invested his officers as follows:—Bro. Debac S.W., J. G. Neald J.W., G. Brown P.M. Treasurer, Neald Secretary, C. Denton S.D., Moore J.D. The Lodge having been closed, the brethren proceeded to the room adjoining, when a most excellent banquet was provided by the Hostess, Mrs. Porter, to which the brethren did ample justice, and retired about eleven o'clock, highly gratified with their evening's enjoyment. The following visitors were present, A. Lingwood J.D. 879, W. C. Sporrer 158, L. Nye 382, Hose S.W. 1155, Skelton 147, H. Fryer 1107.

Manchester Lodge, No. 179.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held on the 21st inst., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Bro. Munro W.M., Tyrrell S.W., Hopekirk P.M., Treasurer. The Secretary, Bro. Hughes, being absent through indisposition, and P.M.'s Bro. Ash, Leighton, Kew and Stuart. The Lodge was opened and the minutes were confirmed. The report of the audit committee shows the Lodge was in a very flourishing state. Bros. Crouch, Neal, and Dante were raised to the third degree by Bro. Hopekirk P.M. One brother was passed, and four gentlemen were initiated by the W.M. A board of installed masters was formed, and Bro. Tyrrell S.W. and W.M. elect was duly installed in the chair by Bro. Kew P.M. in a very effective manner. The officers appointed were as follows: Bros. Munro I.P.M., Burt S.W., Benet J.W., Hopekirk P.M. Treasurer, Hughes P.M. Secretary, Albergurge S.D., Bell J.D., Ayres I.G., and Riley Tyler. A very sumptuous banquet was provided by Bro. Clemon, and superintended by Bro. Smith. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, including those of the P.M.'s wardens, visitors, and officers. The retiring W.M. was presented with a very elegant gold Past Master's jewel, for the able manner he had discharged his duties during his year of office, and Bro. Hopekirk P.M. and Treasurer was presented with a very beautiful and artistically designed ormolu clock, for the efficient manner he had discharged the duty of Treasurer for many years, and also for the great regard and esteem he is held in by every brother in the Lodge. Suitable replies were given for the valuable gifts. Among those present as visitors, were Bros. T. Binckes P.G.S., Secretary Boys' School, Parsons W.M. 180, W. Boll 25, Munns 611, Hawtrey 180, Lakin 180, Jones 820, Livett 1351, Lockhart 380, Laing P.M. 45, Simpson 19, Carlton 382, Bridgman 65, and Jaquard 1314.

Joppa Chapter, No. 188.—The regular convocation of this Chapter was held on Monday, the 25th instant, at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate Street, Comp. H. M. Levy Z., S. Lazarus P.Z. as H., J. Lazarus P.Z. as J., S. V. Abraham P.Z. Treasurer, Dickinson S.E., L. Lazarus S. and Littaur and Pollitzer P.Z.'s The Chapter was opened, and the minutes of the former convocation were read and confirmed. The candidate who had been accepted was not present, and, there being no other business, the Chapter was closed in due form, and the companions adjourned to a very excellent banquet, provided by Comp. W. G. Jennings, and superintended by Comp. Keeping. The Z. proposed the usual loyal and R.A. toasts. The toast of the P.Z. and officers followed, also that of the visitors, Comp. F. Adlard 214, and A. E. Harriss, who severally responded. The Janitor's toast followed, and the brethren separated. Bros. W. G. Jennings, J. H. Ryley and Abrahams contributed to the harmony of the evening.

Trinity Lodge, No. 254, Warwickshire.—St. John's was celebrated in this Lodge on Thursday, the 21st, and will be remembered as a red letter day in the Masonic annals of the ancient city. "The event" was the installation into the W.M.'s chair of Bro. the Rev. Canon Baynes, vicar of St. Michael's, and Past Provincial Grand Chaplain of Warwickshire. Canon Baynes' is both largely and deservedly esteemed as a man and a Mason, and it was well that the Stewards obtained dispensation to hold the Lodge in St. Mary's Hall, which, being admirably decorated and well filled with members of the Craft of all grades, presented a sight not easily forgotten. Great credit was accorded to Bro. Webb P.M., to whom was entrusted the arrangement of the Lodge. Among the guests were the Earl of Limerick Prov. Grand Master of Bristol, Colonel Machen Deputy Prov. Grand Master of Warwickshire, Bro. G. Gumbleton Past Grand Warden of Oxfordshire, Bro. Captain Eaton, and many provincial grand officers, and other well known brethren. The ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. R. Croydon P.M. The W.M. having invested his officers, the brethren adjourned from labour to refreshment. After the banquet, which was provided by Host Jackson at the Castle Hotel, the Masonic toasts were given by the W.M. The Right Hon. the Earl of Limerick, replying for the Grand Master of England, said "He was pleased to be able to state, from his personal knowledge, that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales takes the greatest possible interest in Freemasonry, and is fully prepared to carry out the onerous duties appertaining to the high office." A practical turn was given to the proceedings by an appeal from the chair on behalf of the Coventry Children's Hospital, which was very liberally responded to by the members present. The health of the W.M. was given by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Warwickshire, amid loud applause and prolonged cheering. The evening was enlivened by some excellent singing, Bro. Gumbleton especially affording his hearers a rare treat.

Isca Lodge, No. 683, Newport.—The installation of Bro. W. H. Wickey Homfray, as Worshipful Master of this Lodge, took place at the Grand Masonic Hall, in Dock-street, Newport, on Wednesday last. Between 40 and 50 brethren were present, amongst them not fewer than 15 Past Masters, who, in a duly constituted board, installed the W.M. The ceremony was performed by Bro. L. Augustus Homfray, brother of the W.M. The following were the officers:—Major Pearson I.P.M., William Hitchcock S.W., Walter West J.W., J. W. Osman Chaplain, Henry Mullock Treasurer, Jno. Middleton Secretary, Frederick Flood S.D., E. Lawrence J.D., R. J. Chambers D.C., H. J. Groves Organist, A. P. Filluel I.G., William West jun. Steward, James McBean Steward, Henry Fletcher Tyler. Bro. Watkins, W.M. of the Albert Edward Prince of Wales Lodge, was entrusted, by the P.G.M., with the jewel of the P.G. Supt. Wks., the office having become vacant by the death of Bro. Randall. After the usual votes of thanks to the P.G.M., the D.P.G.M., the retiring Master, &c., the Lodge was closed. The banquet took place at the King's Head Hotel, where Host Gretton had made ample and splendid provision for his guests. From 50 to 60 brethren sat down, under the presidency of the Worshipful Master, Bro. W. H. Wickey Homfray. The toasts were of the usual loyal, patriotic and social character, and the Tyler's toast brought the convival gathering to a close. In the course of the evening it was announced that Bro. S. G. Homfray had undertaken a stewardship in connection with the Boys' Charity in May. A collection was made in the room, and the sum of £31 1s 6d was realised. Bro. Lyne, as P.G.S. of the Chapter, made a special appeal, and generously offered to subscribe liberally, in order to secure for the P.G. Chapter of Monmouthshire a vice-presidentship. The sum required is £50. The appeal was at once responded to by a subscription of £25, making the total amount for charitable purposes £56 1s 6d, in a company not exceeding 56 persons. It is expected that the qualification of £50 will be far exceeded by the contributions of the other Chapters in the Province. Bro. George Homfray will, therefore, proceed to the Festival, in May, with something over 200 sovereigns in his pocket, as the representative of the Monmouthshire Province.

Maybury Lodge, No. 969.—This Lodge met on Wednesday, 20th inst., at Freemasons' Hall. Present: Bros. T. Thomas W.M., C. Dickens S.W., T. Smith J.W., Van Tromp P.M. Treasurer, Lovander P.M. Secretary, and several members of the Lodge, including Bros. D. James, Childs, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. This being the installation meeting, Bro. Charles Dickens (son of the late author), was presented to the Lodge, and he was duly invested by Bro. Messent P.M. The newly installed W.M. then invested his officers as follows, viz. Bro. Talbot Smith S.W., Norton J.W., Van Tromp P.M. Treasurer, Smallpiece Secretary, Thompson S.D., Savory J.D., Pinches I.G., Smith Tyler. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a very sumptuous banquet, provided by Bro. Francatelli, and superintended by Bro. Knill. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given. Several visitors were present, and a very agreeable evening was passed.

Earl of Zetland Lodge, No. 1364.—The usual monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Saturday, the 16th inst., at the Old

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Town Hall, Mare-street, Hackney. The W.M. Bro. John L. Fysh was well supported by his officers and brethren. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. Bro. C. Oliver was passed to the second degree, Mr. Adolph Bissinger, H. Cooper, and S. Morle, were initiated, and the Lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned to slight refreshment.

Metropolitan Lodge, No. 1507.—The members of this new, but rapidly increasing Lodge, met on Thursday, the 21st, at the Metropolitan Club, 269 Pentonville-road, King's Cross, Bro. James Willing jun. W.M., Michael S.W., Williams J.W., Tims Treasurer, Child S.D., Kingham J.D., Fowler D.C., Scales W.S., and Bros. Stiles, Rapkin, Cheek, Sido, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. Colls, Hopton, Jones, Cook, and Carter, were raised to the third degree. Bros. Gilbert, Dunmore, Trimming, Brumell, Bunkill and Easey, were passed to the degree of Fellow Crafts. Messrs. J. Tims and Hatton were initiated into the Order. Mr. A. Horton was ballotted for and accepted; Bros. A. Smith and T. J. Cadett 1271, were elected joining members. A notice of motion was given, "That a Lodge of Instruction be attached to the Lodge, under the Presidency of the W.M.," which was carried unanimously. The working throughout the various ceremonies was ably rendered. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren, 40 in number, sat down to a very capital dinner. The usual toasts and complimentary speeches followed, including that of the visitors, among whom were Bros. J. Pomeroy W.M. 723, J. S. Wilkes 177, Croaker 185, Harris 185 and Hyder 185.

THE DRAMA.

Burlesque under difficulties—The Opera Comique—The Gaiety Matinées.

OUR readers will have gathered, from our previous remarks on the subject of burlesque, that we are not over disposed to admire that form of theatrical entertainment. We were accordingly not very much grieved when we heard of the failure of *Ixion Re-wheeled*, at the OPERA COMIQUE. We bore the stroke with becoming fortitude, and have not even mourned over the evidences of financial dilapidation which have from time to time transpired since the retirement of Miss Sheridan from the boards. At the same time we confess we were unable to see in the performances given under her management any reason for the hue and cry raised by several of our daily contemporaries more than we have seen at other theatres any time this last five years. The inanity, the indecency, the inherent dulness of burlesque seem to us as deserving of condemnation at the STRAND or the GLOBE as at the OPERA COMIQUE; and *Ixion Re-wheeled* is neither better nor worse than a dozen burlesques we could name that have received commendation at the hands of our dramatic censors.

Though not disposed to sympathise as a general rule with the difficulties that beset the performance of burlesque, we are certainly sorry to hear of the illness of Miss Thompson, the talented manageress of the GLOBE THEATRE. By a conjunction of mishaps, which is fortunately rare on the stage, the two leading actresses in the burlesque of *Bluebeard* have been both incapacitated from continuing their parts in the piece by sickness. Miss Thompson is believed to be suffering from nervous excitement, induced by over work, and Miss Rachel Sanger has had the misfortune to sprain her ankle. The part of Selina, hitherto played by Miss Thompson, is now being sustained by Miss Kathleen Irwin, one of our most charming light comedy actresses, and in burlesque one of the few who can play with grace and vivacity, yet without affectation or anything bordering on vulgarity. The performance still goes capitally, and full and enthusiastic audiences nightly bear testimony to the excellence of the performance.

The OPERA COMIQUE has passed under the management of Mr. Hollingshead, who has now no less than three London theatres in his keeping. Mr. Chatterton and Mr. Hollingshead can thus together sway the fortunes of six London houses. Whether this is any advantage to the general public may well be doubted, but we presume it has been found to the profit of these enterprising gentlemen themselves. The performance at the OPERA COMIQUE comprises the ever popular *Lady of Lyons*, in which Mr. and Mrs. Kendal sustain the parts of Claude Melnotte and Pauline Deschapelles respectively. The criticisms on this performance have not been all commendatory, but the representation is nevertheless of more than the average degree of excellence. Perhaps Mr. Ryder's Colonel Dumas is the most satisfactory feature in the performance, although Miss Robertson's Pauline is well worth seeing.

Apropos of Mr. Hollingshead, we are pleased to notice the progress which has been made in the matter of the GAIETY *Matinées*. These performances are now most excellently put upon the stage, and are, generally speaking, of a very high order. Goldsmith's admirable comedy, *She Stoops to Conquer*, was recently given, Miss Robertson playing the part of Miss Hardcastle, and Mr. Kendal appearing as young Marlowe. Arthur Cecil gave a creditable rendering of Tony Lumpkin, and Mrs. John Wood, Miss Furtado, and Mr. Maclean added much to the effect of the representation.

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A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. I.—No. 6. SATURDAY, 6th FEBRUARY 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

FREEMASONRY IN SPAIN.

THE news from Spain is not reassuring. The progress of the young King has, indeed, been marked by spontaneous or manufactured enthusiasm, but the advisers who surround him have already blundered and played into the hands of those Ultramontanes who are anxious to hand that distracted country over to the tender rule of an irresponsible priesthood. We, in England, heard of the accession of this young prince with feelings of unmixed satisfaction. We were of opinion that his presence, in the midst of contending Carlists and Republicans, might have the effect of restoring peace to his country, and, perhaps, of healing the wounds which have been caused by one of the most cruel and bloody of civil wars. We did not forget that the Crown was offered by a clique of statesmen, and not by the people through their representatives; but we all held that the clique or party in favour of monarchy acted as though they had the good of the nation at heart. We learn, with unmixed astonishment, that the generosity which credited the party of the King with the best of intentions has been too hasty, and too ignorant of the utterly rotten condition of Spanish politics. The press has been attacked; the Protestant church in Spain is threatened, and now we hear that an attempt is to be made to suppress Spanish Freemasonry. We hinted, a week or two ago, that the Craft was in some danger, and in our first number we called attention to the fact that Freemasonry in Spain has generally been under the ban of the State. But we did not suppose that a Monarch, invited to rule on so-called constitutional principles, could so soon set those principles at defiance. It was known that in Senor Canovas del Castillo he had an adviser who was thoroughly versed in the science of government, and admirably fitted to play the part of Premier in a free State. Our hope, indeed, that Spain under Alfonso would find peace and freedom was based upon our faith in the genius of the man who was to be his adviser. The threat which now appears to hang over the heads of our brethren in Spain does not, indeed, come from this accomplished politician; but if he is powerless to prevent a step which will emperil his master's crown, we can only fear the worst. It is evident that priestly influence is again doing its fell work, and this threat of persecution would seem to be but the prelude of an unholy alliance between the new government and Rome. The aged Pontiff, who now pines a voluntary prisoner at the Vatican, has always regarded the Freemasons with suspicion and hatred. He has fulminated his edicts against them repeatedly during his long Pontificate, and the great influence of the Church has been used again and again to crush the Order in Catholic countries. A tie which binds men together in mystic brotherhood—a secret which defies the prying eyes of the priesthood—naturally excites the anger of a great hierarchy who seek to make mankind the slaves of a system of mental bondage, which has no parallel in the whole history of despotic rule. But in attacking Masonry the Church has been too wily to state its real reasons for its uncompromising hostility. To assert that the Mason keeps one corner of his mind or heart sacred from the insolent intrusion of priestly eyes, and to make this the sole ground of accusation against him, would manifestly defeat its object. The Church is too wise for this, and, accordingly, we are told that Romish hostility to the Craft arises from the assumed fact that the Order on the Continent invariably becomes a political weapon in the hands of traitors. It has been asserted that the machinery of the organisation readily lends itself to the spread of opinions fatal to the Church, to order, and good government. If such a charge as this were made against English Masons, every one conversant with the facts would laugh it to scorn. The loyalty of the Fraternity has been too often tried and proved, and the Princes of our Royal House have not disdained to hold the gavel of the Grand Master. The libeller who ventures to say that Continental Masonry is not equally loyal to the ruling powers, invariably presses his charges without bringing one particle of evidence to support them. He points merely to the disturbed condition of France and Spain, and argues that secret societies in those countries have been the fomenters of sedition. But he always fails to show that these political brotherhoods have any kinship with the Craft. Even if it were possible to prove beyond all question that Masonry had allied itself with disloyalty, it would still be necessary to prove that the principles of the Order are favourable to rebellion and anarchy. The fact is, that if any isolated cases can be cited in proof of the sweeping and general charges which Rome has thought proper to bring against the brotherhood, that will only go to show that the deep seated discontent of the people of Southern and Western Europe had forced its way into every state and condition of society. When Masons conspire, if they ever conspire, the cause must be sought, not in the Lodge or the Order, but in those high in authority in the State, who care not what crimes they commit against the people, provided a dynasty be upheld, or a rotten church, tottering to its fall, be propped and supported.

Although Spanish Masonry has always been under suspicion, yet we have never heard of one authentic case of disloyalty on the part of the collective brotherhood. Individual Masons may doubtless have been found in the ranks of the plotters against the State. It would be strange indeed if they were not. If we were to assert that under no circumstances had a Mason been found willing to take arms against a bad Government, we should only be declaring that, in trying moments, when duty to the State means antagonism to the Government, they had failed in the highest and most sacred duty of a citizen. Rebellion, in some cases, is a sacred duty, and none but a bigot or a fool will say that our countrymen were in the wrong when they took arms against King James II. Loyalty to freedom in a case of this kind overrides all other considerations, and when to rebel or be silent means to be free or to perish, it would be idle to urge that a man must remember obligations which were never intended to rob him of his status as a human being and a citizen. We, however, deny emphatically that the Order in Spain, as an Order, has ever encouraged sedition. The brotherhood have struggled in that unhappy country to spread the benign principles of the Craft, and amid much discouragement they have succeeded in building up the Masonic edifice to respectable proportions. This threat of persecution, coming from the man who has been regarded as the only hope of the Nation, is a cruel blow to the anticipations of all liberal minded Spanish politicians. It is an augury of ill in store for other interests than those which cluster around the Craft. The crown indeed as yet sits so lightly on the head of Alfonso that the mere breath of popular indignation may bring the bauble to the ground. If he would rule his countrymen he must show that he is independent of the intrigues of priests, but this attack on Masonry can come from no other quarter than Rome, and if Rome is to guide the counsels of the Cabinet at Madrid, Alfonso will soon again be an exile from the land in which the Bourbon has never yet been naturalised.

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FREEMASONRY IN ITALY.

IN the January number of *le Mond Maçonnique* is an article on the present position and prospects of Italian Freemasonry; and as we are told it emanates from a distinguished brother, the following translation will, perhaps, be acceptable to our readers.

If it is commendable in a young society to maintain its position in spite of the many and grave difficulties which surround it; assuredly Italian Masonry is worthy of the very highest praise. Not only has it been able to preserve itself pure, independent, and honoured, but every day that has passed since the last Assembly has brought with it increased power and estimation.

Italian Masonry embraces two principal rites; the Scottish and the Symbolical, the rite of Memphis being hardly, if at all, represented. It was greatly to be feared that this division might lead to, if not a moral, at all events an administrative, separation. There were even rumours abroad on this point, and the perfidious enemies of the Order already seemed to triumph. Hence the Masonic world was anxious to learn what line of policy the new Constituent Assembly would pursue. It behoves us then to acknowledge that this body has not only not disappointed, but has greatly surpassed the reasonable expectations of all good Masons.

It is needless to enlarge on the brotherly feeling which governed the labours of the Assembly; the world knows this already. So profound, indeed, was this sentiment as almost to prove harmful, if that, indeed, can be so described, which summarily cut short every discussion, even on questions of the greatest moment, in order to arrive at a final vote which, as the event proved, was almost unanimous.

The constitution of Italian Masonry, based as well on freedom and the complete development of its rites as on the independence and unity of administrative power, is in perfect accord with those principles of liberty which govern the modern world, and for the accomplishment of which Masonry has laboured so strenuously and endured so much. The new elections of the Constituent body have, in great measure, confirmed the government of the Order as settled by the Assembly of 1872, a fact which proves that those who were at that time entrusted with the governance of the Craft have never ceased to possess the entire confidence and affection of all the brethren. The new element imported into the Council of the Order, and among the GG.MM. thereto affiliated, has brought with it a considerable accession of weight and influence together with a spirit of hearty co-operation both effective and fraternal. When once have been established the bases of a system destined to endure, to prosper, and to perfect itself indefinitely, then Freemasonry in Italy will vastly extend its beneficent influence, its power and authority, and will make itself respected even in the outer world.

The new Lodges which have been established in all parts of the Italian peninsula have largely increased both the number and moral weight of the Order. Many old Masons, whom the incertitude of the earlier steps kept aloof, have again knocked at the door of temple, and it has been opened in order to welcome them with that fraternal regard which displays itself in the domestic circle when some dearly loved but long absent member returns to its bosom. Some Lodges—which had been led astray by the well-known mar-alls which are a reproach to the Order, and which, for some time past, had been excluded from the ranks of the Italian brotherhood—have recognised their error, in most cases involuntary on their part, and have returned full of confidence in the success of their labours. Vain were the efforts of the men we have spoken of to seduce them once again from their purpose. The calumnies they invented, the silly recriminations they indulged in, only served to unmask them more and more. True there are still some small refractory centres, but we may safely assert that if these are honest, they will not long delay rejoining the G.O. of Italy. On the other hand, if the elements of which they are composed are at all unworthy of regard, the discredit into which they have already fallen, will place them beyond the power of doing harm.

This work of increase has induced another, far more engrossing in its details, and of far greater difficulty. We mean the work of purification. It was necessary to eliminate all those elements which, if not absolutely bad, would bring to the Craft neither esteem, nor community of principles and views. This operation is still being carried out by means of a single diploma of the third degree, emblem distinctive and modest of the brethren, but above all, sure guarantee and indispensable passport for the members of every grade, in order to secure for them due recognition as regular Masons. Thus purified, Italian Masonry will pursue its labours, many of which are more than commenced, and already approach completion.

The Lodges of Italy remain faithful to the grand principles of the Craft, and are before all things setting themselves to the task of tightening those bonds which unite in one brotherhood the Masons of the whole world. They are working prudently, and devoting themselves, with philosophic tolerance, to the consideration of those questions which the modern world must sooner or later solve. It is thus, that with unshaken constancy and never failing prudence, the Masons of Italy are gradually fashioning the stone, which at the same time they are polishing.

This task is at present sustained by 165 Lodges, organised and regulated in their labours by the superior authorities of each rite, as established in the chief provinces of the Peninsula. Between May and December of last year the work of re-organisation thus undertaken by the brethren in Italy, led to the establishment of 25 Lodges, all prosperous and in working order. But in order to give an idea of the stringent resolutions, which actuate the G.O. of Italy on the subject of the purification and reconstitution of the Order in that noble country, it is well to point out that, for diverse reasons, 25 Lodges have been broken up, while the same fate awaits many others. It is the fixed and immovable determination of those who rule Italian Freemasonry, to have done with all those meetings which are Masonic in name only.

By way of crowning the edifice of Italian Masonry, there is, at this moment, being prepared, in the very heart of Rome itself, a temple, which will be elegantly decorated, though not to the extent demanded by the grandeur of that ancient city, which was once the seat of Empire of the world. It will suffice, however, to demonstrate the power which Masonry exercises. We rejoice to see this work approaching its completion, and cordially felicitate our Italian brethren thereon. Henceforth the pilgrims of civilisation who shall visit Rome in order to admire these new triumphs of Liberalism will have a common point of meeting, where they will encounter that fraternal welcome which is the special as it is certainly the finest characteristic of our cosmopolitan society. There the representatives of all the Masonic powers of the world will be able at all times to knit more closely together those bonds of love and solidarity which for some time past have linked the youth of Italian Masonry with the older and more venerable members of the Masonic family. Thus it is that Freemasonry in Italy, which has rendered such invaluable service in the regeneration of that magnificent country, replies on the one hand to the malignant insinuations of its enemies, and on the other, to the splendid anticipations of those who have always appreciated its merits at their true value.

MASONIC MINSTRELSY.

LEST the title of this article should mislead the reader, we take leave to assure him at the outset that we have no intention of discussing those lyric flights of fancy which sometimes enliven the post-prandial proceedings of the brethren. We never heard on any of these occasions a song with any pretensions to Masonic origin, except the one devoted to the E. A., and that we always regarded as the first crude conception of the nonsense verse so popular in our own time. It has been our lot upon more than one "occasion" to "gaze on" an estimable brother "Mason" struggling with lines terminating in the words we have just quoted, and always with a sense of wonder that any person could be brought to utter such incredible bathos of commonplace.

The singer whose "tuneful throat" informs us that

> "Antiquity's pride
> We have on our side,
> *Which maketh men just in their station,*"

must be a lineal descendant of the immortal Gamp, or a humourist of the highest order, if he preserves his gravity through such an ordeal. That this remarkably bald, and for the most part incomprehensible lyric, should rival the

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patriarchs in age, surviving a century and a half of ridicule, is explained in the circumstance that it is no worse than any other effusion of the kind, that it is in fact a fair sample of ancient, or rather pseudo-ancient, Masonic Minstrelsy. The first collection of Masonic songs of which we have any knowledge appeared in an appendix to the *Constitutions of the Freemasons*, published in 1723 "over against St. Dunstan's Church in Fleet Street." This collection was reprinted some fifty years afterwards in that notable work *Ahiman Rezon*, with many additions, which rivalled, if they did not surpass, the older effusions in pompous absurdity, but not one of them can be properly described as ancient. They, one and all, display in its grossest form the ridiculous affectation which characterised the fugitive literature of the first George's reign, and which is fatal to the simplicity necessary to the composition of a lyric poem. Most of them were in all probability composed for the convivial meetings of the "Antient Brotherhood" at the "Five Bells" in the Strand, or similar resorts, during the first decade of the eighteenth century. Doubtless they lived their night, and it is likely enough that the roofs of the old "Apple Tree" and the "Goose and Gridiron" many a time resounded to Masonic applause of the verse that to us appears the embodiment of prose run mad. In those days there was possibly nothing absurd in any one singing in praise of—

> "The Temple that wise King Solomon raised,
> For beauty, for order, for elegance praised,
> To what did it owe its *elegancy?*
> To the just formed rules of Masonry,"

attuned to the air of "Polly, you might have toyed and kissed." But let any reader attempt such a performance for himself, and we promise him he will soon experience the ludicrous effect produced by incongruity of tune and subject; unless, indeed, the descent from King Solomon to Mrs. Peachum—from Mount Moriah to a thieves' kitchen—should provoke a graver feeling against the genius that designed it.

It is only occasionally throughout these old songs that the reader is directed to the tunes, but whenever the direction is given, there appears a similar insensibility to the fitness of things. The effort to "varnish nonsense with the charms of sound" serves in these cases to render the nonsense more and more intolerable. "Arise, gentle muse, and thy wisdom impart," was and is, for all we know to the contrary, the recognised form of invocation to the spirit of song. But when we are instructed to intone the prayer after the lilting melody, "Dear Tom, this brown jug," we feel at once that such a muse must be a slattern at best, and one likely to be better acquainted with the garrets of Drury Lane than the groves of Parnassus. We could multiply instances of this sort from our "ancient" collection, but *cui bono?* These songs, anthems, or glees, are in no sense representative of Masonry or its belongings, and we dare say it will be news to many a brother that such things were ever brought into the world of song begotten of our Order.

Throughout the collection there is not a single composition above the level of a Grub Street broadsheet of the period, not to say worthy of the exalted theme by which their authors in most cases professed to be inspired. If we turn to a later collection, brought out in 1852, we find little to reward our research. This one indeed is even more aggravating in its effects than the other, from the circumstance that our hopes are raised upon the first page by a valedictory lyric from Burns, and upon the second dashed into a gulf of bathos, in which antique inanity and modern flippancy maintain an equal struggle for precedence. The compiler, unmindful of the proverbial worthlessness of "old songs," gathered them into his net, and, from a tenderness which, however misplaced, was, we doubt not, due to unquestioning love for the Craft and its traditions, helped to prolong the existence of absurdities offensive to good taste, and in no way creditable to the literary power of our Order. In this work, as in the older one, we are confronted with the dissonant conjunction of pretentious theme and commonplace melody, to which we have already adverted, and need not therefore waste another drop of ink in its condemnation. It is, we are happy to think, a species of buffoonery of which the writers of these songs! may have been altogether unconscious, and therefore perfectly innocent. A musician is at all times willing enough to wed his music to "undying verse," but it is not given to him to predict an immortality which, after all, can never be assured, and which, while the critical faculty exists, must always be problematical.

Our authors, deprived of such potent aid, must necessarily have resigned their productions to the careless fancy of the vocalist, who, after the manner of his kind, would bestow more consideration upon the exigencies of his voice than upon the suitability of the air adopted to the words he had to sing. Assuming this to be the case, we acknowledge that songs, when considered apart from the music to which their authors might wish them to be allied, should be exempt from the accepted rules of literary criticism.

The character of the music imparts force or feebleness to words expressive of contrary qualities, and it is within every one's experience that phrases which offend the eyes and ears of a reader may trip smoothly enough from the tongue of a sweet singer. Nevertheless, we believe that not even Music, heavenly maid though she be, and "Sovereign of the willing soul," could ever impart the faintest whisper of harmony to the unmixed twaddle of which our so-called Masonic Minstrelsy is chiefly composed.

CHARITY, AND ITS APPLICATION.

AMONG the historical records of this country, perhaps none can be found more valuable than those legacies of love and regard, wisdom and piety, which have been handed down by our forefathers in the names of gifts and charity. It is well known that many of these glorious gifts have been both misapplied and perverted. This, however, does not justify the spirit that would check the genial current of benevolence, and to refuse all aid to our poorer brethren of humanity. Those who, by a selfish economy, would debar, under the name of individual independence, those who from deep sympathy with their suffering from rendering assistance to the needy and the fallen, are not imbued with faith, hope and charity, which are the trinity of those virtues which should ever be deemed the directing powers of human life. When the rich man dies, and leaves his wealth to aid the poor, it is a recognition of his gratitude to the country in which he became prosperous, and to the people among whom he lived. It is a re-distribution of wealth accumulated in prosperity, to aid and succour those who have fallen into social adversity. It is one of those elements of fraternal power that binds the past with the present, and prolongs the memories of those whose deeds in life live after death, in affectionate remembrance of the grateful recipients of their bounty. Attempts have recently been made, by men in high authority, to take all the public charities out of the hands of local trustees, and place them under a centralising governmental power. This is an attempt at imperialism, and subversive of the great fundamental principle of representative government. This is not the time for the people to give up the control of those immense funds that are every year distributed throughout the land by earnest and honest citizens. Let no undercurrent ever induce the public to part with those treasuries of benevolence that have been bequeathed to future generations by the great and noble benefactors of the past. The cold, calculating, political followers of Mr. Malthus have not made much progress, or made many converts the last few years. This doctrine was repugnant to the holiest instincts of human nature and family ties, and, coming from a minister of the Christian faith, seemed to be a violation of every social principle, and high treason against that religion which he professed to teach. It is all very well to advise care, prudence and economy, but what is the use of that advice to the many thousands of industrious, intelligent working men whose circumstances have steeped them in penury, poverty and misery? It is an insult to their reason, and a mockery of their sufferings. The cry of improvidence is uniformly made against the poor at periods of distress, when their claims are most urgent. It would be as well if those who think it a duty to exhort the poor to the practice of economy, as being the one thing needful to ensure to them continual prosperity, and to a habit of saving as the only safeguard against the day of adversity, would point out in what this economy is to consist, and where the saving is to begin. It is true that by the exercise of some self denial, an artisan of the lowest class may contrive to put by a small sum weekly, as has been proved by the experiment of Provident Societies, but it must be remembered that the chief benefit that such a man derives from his connection with one of these societies consists in his being

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brought by it into intercourse with his rich neighbours, who have thus the opportunity of knowing and appreciating his character without any degrading efforts on his part to obtain their notice, and who are enabled to render him timely aid and kindly offices in a manner the least offensive possible to his self-respect. These are advantages which he may enjoy conjointly with the wholesome feeling that, in some way, he is entitled to them from his own efforts after independence. The chief benefit does not consist in his having realised a sufficient fund from his own savings. But it is well known that however resolutely and perseveringly one of this class may put by a portion of his wages, the accumulated sum must necessarily be so trifling in amount that the first casualty or illness, or a burial, or a dearth of employment, soon swallows up the little fund, and leaves him burdened with debt. And have not the poor motives enough to save, independently of the exhortations and advice of their more comfortable neighbours? Have they not the strongest that can appeal to human nature—the good of their children—their respectability amongst their fellows—their fear of the Workhouse? yet they do not and cannot provide against the evil day! No; providence there may be, economy their must be, but saving is next to impossible. Let the reader just remember that the Government returns of the population of this country estimate that, on an average, the families of England are represented as five: husband, wife and three children. With the recent advance of the wages of the agricultural labourers they cannot be more than 14s per week. If one penny per head is allowed for each of the four meals per day, the sum expended will be 11s 8d, leaving only 2s 4d (even supposing they live rent free) to meet all the expenses of clothing and other contingencies of human life. A review of these facts should teach the nation to guard, with a jealous eye, every attempt that may tend to narrow the boundaries of charity, or check the flow of a warm and genial benevolence. A State, to be wise, should look to its own security in the equality and brotherhood of all, in their interests linked to its own; in their prosperity by its machinery, as the paramount object, with which no other system should be allowed to interfere, whatever its pretensions, or however high its claims.

A MEDIUM ON "FREEMASONRY."

THE Spiritualists are a strange sect. We are not about to enter upon polemics which are forbidden ground, but give certain extracts from an oration delivered by Mrs. Tappan at Cavendish Rooms on the evening of Sunday, the 24th ult., reported by a Spiritualists' Journal, called *The Medium and Daybreak*. Mrs. Tappan, whose eloquence was much noticed in the press after her first appearance in this country, some months since, is a so-called "inspirational" lecturer, purporting to be the mouthpiece of a "circle" of departed philosophers of the spirit-world. The Lecture, we notice, is entitled *The Most Ancient Angel*, and forms part of Series II. upon *Statics*, the first series, of twelve orations, having been denominated *Dynamics*.

"The Most Ancient Angel connected with the ministration of spiritual dispensations of the earth, was known to the ancients by the name of Orisses, or the Osiris of the Egyptians, and represented the spiritual power of which the material expression was the sun, or light of day. . . . . It was under his dispensation that the Order of Melchisedec was founded. . . . . It was in the beginning of the reign and under the control of Orisses, that the first thought of the Ancient Order of Freemasonry was founded, where the All-seeing Eye represented the light of day, the various implements of mechanical toil and worship the symbols of creative power, and where the arc of circle and the angle represented the contact of the Divine Mind with Nature in the production of life and of mechanical force. Under his reign those most subtle laws and forces were revealed, whereby the atom which is globular, is pierced by the angle or point of vital life and thus made to reveal itself as the symbolic expression of vital power upon earth. Under his reign all those arts now scattered or lost, were concentrated for the perfection and perpetuation of physical life, symbolising some force in spirit or mind; and while the records are lost and there are but few remnants of the most mighty nation of that period, there still remains sufficient to confirm the connecting link between that remote past and the present; Egypt being but the latest expression of the reign of Orisses (other nations and continents were then in existence, who expressed it with even greater splendour). . . . . Atalantis, then under the dispensation of this mighty angel, tradition has often pointed out was submerged, and what is now known as the New World, must in reality have been peopled by a race whose splendour outlived in the reign of Orisses the pomp of the ancient Egyptians. . . . . As Orisses represented the physical life, and the life of the sun, so Brahma administered the next stage of spirit. . . . . And what Orisses represents in an angel having the greatest advancement, every order of beings between him and the earth represents in a relative degree. That is why many nations in the East yet cling to that form of worship, because the wave of that life has not entirely left the Eastern continent, while each succeeding wave has born its fruits, passed, and left some remnant of its expression. That is why the nations worship so variously to-day. . . . . That is why there are those who believe in the All-seeing Eye in its religious instead of its pure Freemasonic sense. . . . ."

What think our readers of this for transcendentalism. We should pronounce it, in conception Goëthe-like, and in description Schilleresque. Could we be assured of its truth, then indeed:—

"Mächtig lösten wir der Dinge Siegel,
Nach der Wahrheit lichtem Sonnenhügel
Schwing, g'sich unser Flügel!"

FREEMASONRY IN THE UNITED STATES DURING AND AFTER THE REVOLUTION.

WE are indebted to a history of Philadelphia, by a Mr. Thompson Westcott, now current in one of the American journals, for the following particulars, which cannot fail to be in the highest degree interesting to our readers. During the earlier revolutionary movements, the Masonic Lodges of Ancient York Masons continued to meet with occasional interruptions. Lodge No. 3, met at Daniel Smith's City Tavern, in Philadelphia, on St. John's day 1775, and participated in a banquet. On this occasion, we are told, thirteen members are said to have met, and, measuring all their proceedings by the patriotic number thirteen (in honour of the thirteen States), they had thirteen dishes of meats, banquetted thirteen hours, drank thirteen toasts, sang thirteen songs, and, with a capacity which must astound our brethren of this generation, drank thirteen bottles of wine and thirteen bowls of toddy, and it is added that, by way of consistency, the landlord's bill amounted to £13. During the occupation of the city by the British troops, its Lodges were interfered with, and, perhaps, suspended; but one, probably connected with the Royal forces, appears to have met at Second Street and Elfreth's Alley. When, however, the city was evacuated, the return of the Whigs gave new spirit to Masonry. The brethren re-assembled, and though, as the issue of the contest was yet doubtful, no formal assertion was made at the time that the ties connecting them with the Grand Lodge in England were severed, a feeling prevailed that the declaration of National Independence had virtually established a ground for such rupture. Certainly, American Masons were in no way restrained in what they did by any regard for ancient authority. P.G.M. William Ball was charged with the important duty of organising the Grand Lodge, and he summoned the brethren to meet on 16th December 1778, when Bro. Rev. William Smith was appointed Secretary *pro tem*, and Grand Officers were elected. On St. John's day of the same year, the Grand Lodge and subordinate Lodges celebrated the day by a procession and other ceremonies, the occasion being honoured by the presence of Bro. George Washington, who took part in the procession, supported by the Grand Master and his Deputy. Divine service was held in Christ Church, after which they returned to the College, and afterwards dined in their respective Lodges, a collection amounting to £400, for the relief of the poor, appropriately closing this portion of the proceedings. At the meeting of Grand Lodge in this year, a committee was appointed to present a new code of laws for its future government, and, in November 1781, Bro. Rev. William Smith presented an abridgement of Dermot's "Ahiman Rezon," with alterations and additions; and it was unanimously accepted. In 1780, this abridgement was published, under the title of "The Abridged Ahiman Rezon, as a help to all that are, or would be Free and Accepted Masons," and it is now known among the Craft as "Smith's Ahiman Rezon."

In the meantime, an attempt was made by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania to establish a Grand Lodge of the United States, even before the Revolutionary War was over. A special communication was held for this purpose, in 1780, and resolutions were adopted in favour of a General Grand Lodge, with General George Washington as General Grand Master for the whole of the United States, but the proposition was coldly received by the Grand Lodge of Virginia, and afterwards fell through. In 1785, a

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Sublime Lodge of Perfection, according to the rites recommended by the King of Prussia, extending the Masonic degrees to 33, was constituted in the new Grand Lodge room in Black Horse Alley, and at the banquet which followed at the City Tavern, the occasion was dignified with thirteen toasts, the first being in honour of the King of Prussia, and the second of Bro. George Washington. The new room in Black Horse Alley could not have been occupied for a long time, for in the year following the meetings were again held in the Old Masonic Hall, built by the modern Masons in Lodge Alley. This branch of the Order, however, declined very rapidly, and in 1785, an Act was passed by the Assembly of Pennsylvania, ordering the sale of the Masonic Hall. The revenue from the rents and profits was to be given, two-thirds to subscribers and one-third to the first Lodge, and two-thirds of the proceeds of the sale were paid to subscribers then living, and one-third to the first Lodge for charitable purposes. The sale was effected in 1792, the first Lodge handing over its share to the City Corporation in 1793, to form a fund for the purchase of fuel for the poor. In December 1786; the Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons, which had rented the Masonic Hall for some time, resumed its meetings in Vidells Alley, where they had been held before the outbreak of the Revolution.

As might, perhaps, have been foreseen, a severance from England of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, when once the Independence of the United States was established, was soon determined upon. A special meeting of Grand Lodge, with subordinate Lodges, was held in September 1783, when it was "Resolved, that it is improper that the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania should remain any longer under the authority of any foreign Grand Lodge." At a convention subsequently held, it was unanimously resolved that the heretofore Provincial Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania should be determined, and the Lodges under its jurisdiction should form themselves into a Grand Lodge, to be called "The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and Masonic jurisdiction thereunto belonging," and to be holden in Philadelphia. When Franklin died in 1790, the Masonic Lodges took no part in the funeral procession, he being a modern Mason, but an address of respect had, some years previously, been presented to him. But, when General Washington died, in December 1799, Congress requested the society of Freemasons to attend as mourners, and this request was complied with, Lodge L'Amenité No. 73, holding also a Lodge of sorrow in honour of the deceased brother. The Craft were also present on the occasion of the funeral solemnity, on 22nd January 1800, Grand Lodge being present, and the following Blue Lodges, L'Amenité, No. 73; Philadelphia Lodge, No. 72; Orange Lodge, No. 71; Concordia Lodge, No. 67; Washington Lodge, No. 59; Harmony Lodge, No. 52; Lodge No. 19; Lodge No. 9; Lodge No. 3 and Lodge No. 2; between three and four hundred Masons being in the parade.

As regards Military Lodges during the Revolution, these were held under direction of officers of regiments, the ceremonies being made as complete as could be under the circumstances. It is known that before the war, brothers of the 17th Regiment British were granted a warrant to work as a Lodge by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and this was designated Lodge No. 18. The present Lodge, No. 19, or Montgomery Lodge, was established by warrant granted in May 1779, to the "First Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteer Artillery." This Lodge travelled with the Pennsylvania line during the war, and in 1784 its warrant was surrendered to Grand Lodge, a new one, under which it is still worked, being issued in place thereof in 1786. Other warrants for travelling Lodges were issued by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, not only to Pennsylvanian lodges, but to those of other states, among them being warrant No. 29 to North Carolina Regiment Continental Army; Warrant No. 27 to Maryland Regiment ditto; Warrant No. 36 to New Jersey Brigade ditto.

The subject of Royal Arch Masonry appears to have caused some difficulty to the Order in Pennsylvania. According to "Ahiman Rezon," the first Royal Arch Chapter in America of which any account exists was held in Philadelphia before 1758. This chapter worked under the warrant of Lodge No. 3, and had communication with a military chapter working under a warrant granted by the Grand Lodge of England. In 1795, one Molan, attempted to form an independent Royal Arch Chapter, under the warrants of Lodges No. 5, 19, 52 and 67, and a Maryland and Georgia Lodge. But the Grand Lodge stepped in and suspended these Lodges, further declaring that Molan ought not to be received as a Mason by any of the Lodges under its jurisdiction. The suspended Lodges were afterwards restored, and it was resolved to erect a Grand Royal Arch Chapter, under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. This was the first Chapter established in the United States. In 1798 it was decreed that no warrant for a chapter should be granted by the Grand Chapter, except to be worked under the warrant of a regular subsisting Lodge. Innovations, however, were meditated in other parts of the Union. In 1797, a convention of several chapters in the northern States was held at Boston, delegates from Massachusets, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Vermont and New York attending. By this convention it was declared, in opposition to the Pennsylvania precedent, that "no Grand Lodge had any authority to exercise any authority over any convention or Chapter of Royal Arch Masons," and co-operation was invited to assist in the opening of a Grand Chapter at Hartford, towards the end of January of the ensuing year. This was done, and a Grand Chapter erected, having authority over the above States. The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania protested against this action, but in vain. The innovation spread, causing much inconvenience to the Royal Arch Masons of Pennsylvania, with whom it became a subject of great complaint.

MANY A MICKLE MAKES A MUCKLE.

A GOOD tale needs no varnishing. Plunge we, therefore, at once, in the manner prescribed by Horace, *in medias res*. Last year an excellent plan was devised, by our esteemed Bro. Constable, for the purpose of augmenting the funds of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. Its very simplicity no doubt commended it to the members of the Craft, and a marked success was the gratifying result. Bro. Constable had printed and circulated among the brethren, some two thousand shilling tickets, each of which entitled its owner to take part in a ballot or drawing for certain Life Governorships to the Institution, the number of such being determined by the amount realised by their sale. By this means Bro. Constable was enabled to hand in, as steward of the anniversary festival, held on 28th January 1874, the highly respectable sum of £100. The same plan is proposed this year, on behalf of the Girls' School. Four thousand tickets have already been distributed, every two hundred and ten of which—or ten guinea's worth—representing a Life Governorship or two Life Subscriberships, at the option of the winner. Thus—to deal with even figures for the better exemplification of the scheme—if between the date of issue and the 28th April next, the day fixed for the ballot, 4,200 tickets shall have been sold, the proceeds will represent two hundred guineas, or the value of twenty Life Governorships. The holders of these 4,200 tickets will then assist at the ballot for the 20 prizes, and the names of the twenty winners will be forwarded to the Secretary of the Institution, for the purpose of enrolment among the Life Governors. By this means two hundred guineas—without any deduction whatever, be it remarked—will be added to the funds of the school. These figures represent, we believe, approximately, the amount of success which has thus far attended the project, but there is no limit whatever to the sum proposed to be raised in this manner. There is ample time between now and the day fixed for the ballot to increase the number of tickets twofold or threefold, in which case the two hundred guineas we have spoken of would be increased to four hundred or six hundred guineas and the number of Life Governorships from twenty to forty or sixty.

We have said the plan is simple; it possesses also these further advantages. There are many Masons who can ill afford a contribution of one guinea, or even of half-a-guinea, and yet have the heart to contribute, out of their limited means, some smaller sum. There are many, again, who, possessing this will, would yet hesitate to put their names down for such trifling contributions in a subscription list filled with donations varying from one to ten or even more guineas. Bro. Constable's scheme just meets the case of these brethren. According to the number of tickets they can afford to purchase, by so many shillings will they have increased the funds of the Institution.

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They will further possess the inward satisfaction of feeling that though less wealthy than other, and more fortunately circumstanced members of the Craft, they are in no wise less charitable. Their pride too, in the charity of the Craft, will have a juster, and, we may add, a more extended basis to rest upon. Our Masonic Institutions will thus become, in every sense, a credit to the whole Craft, instead of being a credit to only a limited number of its wealthier members. It only remains for us to add, that the plan has our warmest wishes for its success.

We cannot do better, perhaps, than close these remarks with the following pertinent extract from the speech of the Marquess of Ripon, our late Worshipful Grand Master, delivered at the Festival of the Boys' School, on the 11th March 1874:—

"What I want to impress upon you to-night is this: that it is far better that these institutions should be supported by small subscriptions from large numbers, than that that they should be supported by large subscriptions from a few. You who can subscribe and do not, have no right to say that the Boys' School is a credit to Freemasonry; it is a credit to its subscribers; it is no credit, but a discredit to those who do not subscribe. And I earnestly beg you to reflect that these institutions are the proofs which are held up, and which we ourselves hold up to our fellow countrymen, of the advantages of the spirit by which the Craft in this country is animated; but they are only proofs in the degree in which they are supported, throughout the length and breadth of the Craft, by every one who can give any support at all. Do not let any brother be ashamed to give a small subscripton. A great many small subscriptions will, in the end, come, as you well know, to a great deal more than a few large ones, and what you want is that these institutions should rest upon the widest possible basis, that they should be truly representatives of the spirit of this ancient fraternity; that what we say after dinner we may say deliberately at all times, without fear of contradiction, that the spirit of the Craft is to be judged by the fruits which it bears in institutions like this, because these institutions do not rest upon the generosity of the few, but because they are founded upon the broad and staple basis of the general support of the Craft."

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

Parliament was opened yesterday by Royal Commission at 2 p.m. The following is

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

It is with great satisfaction that I again meet you and resort to the advice and assistance of my Parliament.

I continue to receive assurances of friendship from all foreign powers. The peace of Europe has remained, and I trust will remain, unbroken. To preserve and consolidate it will ever be a main object of my endeavours.

The conference held at Brussels on the laws and usages of war has concluded its sittings. My government have carefully examined the reports of its proceedings; but, bearing in mind, on the one hand, the importance of the principles involved, and, on the other, the widely divergent opinions which were there expressed, and the improbability of their being reconciled, I have not thought it right to accede to proposals which have been made for further negociations on the subject. The correspondence which has passed will be presented to you.

The Government of Spain, presided over by Marshal Serrano, has ceased to exist, and the Prince of Asturias has been called to the throne under the title of King Alfonso XII. The question of formally recognising, in concert with other powers, the newly restored monarchy, is at this moment before my Government, and its decision will not be long delayed. It is my earnest hope that internal peace may be speedily restored to a great, but unfortunate country.

The exertions of my naval and consular servants in the repression of the East African Slave Trade have not been relaxed, and I confidently trust that they will bring about the complete extinction of a traffic equally repugnant to humanity and injurious to legitimate commerce.

The differences which have arisen between China and Japan, and which at one time threatened to lead to war between those States, have been happily adjusted. I have learnt with pleasure that the good offices of my Minister at Pekin have been largely instrumental in bringing about this result.

The past year has been one of general prosperity and progress throughout my Colonial Empire.

On the Gold Coast, a steady advance has been made in the establishment of civil government, peace has been maintained, and I have procured the assent of the protected tribes to the abolition of slavery. Henceforward, I trust, freedom will exist there, as in every part of my dominions.

In Natal I have found myself under the necessity of reviewing the sentence which had been passed upon a native chief, and of considering the condition of the tribes, and their relations to the European settlers and my Government. I doubt not that I shall have your concurrence in any measures which is may become my duty to adopt for ensuring a wise and humane system of native administration in that part of South Africa.

Papers will be laid before you on these several matters.

The King and Chiefs of Fiji having made a new offer of their islands unfettered by conditions, I have thought it right to accept the cession of a territory, which, independently of its large natural resources, offers important maritime advantages to my fleets in the Pacific.

An ample harvest has restored prosperity to the provinces of my Eastern Empire, which, last year, were visited with famine. By the blessing of Providence, my Indian Government has been able entirely to avert the loss of life, which I had reason to apprehend from that great calamity.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I have directed the estimates of the year to be prepared and presented to you without delay.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The condition of the finances is satisfactory. The trade of the country in the past year has somewhat fallen short of that of the year before, but the general prosperity of the people, supported, as it has been, by an excellent harvest, as well as by the great reductions lately made in taxation, has led to a steady increase in the consumption of all the necessaries of life, and of those articles which contribute to the revenue.

The various statutes of an exceptional or temporary nature now in force, for the preservation of peace in Ireland, will be brought to your notice with a view to determine whether some of them may not be dispensed with.

Several measures which were unavoidably postponed at the end of last Session, will be again introduced. Among the most important are those for simplifying the transfer of land, and completing the reconstruction of the judicature.

Bills will be also laid before you for facilitating the improvement of the dwellings of the working classes in large towns; for the consolidation and amendment of the Sanitary Laws; and for the prevention of the pollution of rivers.

A measure has been prepared for consolidating and amending the laws relating to friendly societies. Its object will be to assist, without unnecessarily interfering with, the laudable efforts of my people to make provision for themselves against some of the calamities of life.

A Bill for the amendment of the Merchant Shipping Acts will be laid before you.

Your attention will be moreover directed to legislation for the better security of my subjects from personal violence, and for more effectually providing for the trial of offences by establishing the office of a public prosecutor.

Although the report of the commission issued by me to inquire into the state and working of the law as to offences connected with trade has not yet been made to me, I trust that any legislation on this subject which may be found to be expedient may take place in the present Session.

You will also be invited to consider a measure for improving the law as to agricultural tenancies.

I commend to your careful consideration these and other measures which may be submitted to you, and I pray that your deliberations may, under the Divine blessing, result in the happiness and contentment of my people.

REVIEWS.

All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, 67 Barbican, E.C.

—10c—

MAGAZINES OF THE MONTH.

Considering the tendencies of *Blackwood* towards Conservatism, its survey of "Politics at Home and Abroad" is very impartially written. No one can deny that the Liberal party is somewhat disorganised at present, or that its re-organisation is desirable. Nor will any of our readers cavil at the sketch of American and Continental politics. None, we think, will gainsay the accuracy of the writer's statements on these matters. But the most attractive reading in the present number will be found in the article headed, "The Payment of the Five Milliards." We hardly know which to admire most, the description of the manner in which this marvellous operation was carried out, or the apparently inexhaustible resources of the country which has paid so immense an indemnity, and is yet prosperous, even more than before the war. The short tale, "Giannetto," is concluded. The materials were slight, but the writer has worked them up and has formed of them a well planned story. We must note that "The Story of Valentine and his Brother" is brought to a close. It has been one of the chief attractions of *Blackwood* for several months past. Few stories, indeed, have afforded us greater pleasure.

There is a capital contribution to *Temple Bar* on "The Universality of Superstitions connected with Sneezing." "A Few Weeks with Hans Andersen," the well-known Danish writer, gives us an insight into the character of one of the ablest writers for youth of this, or, indeed, of any age. Mrs. Edwards's tale of "Leah; a Woman of Fashion," and "Patricia Kemball," are quite as interesting as ever. Nor should we pass over unnoticed the articles on "Benvenuto Cellini" and "Mirabeau and Madame de Nehra."

There is, as usual, abundance of agreeable light reading in *London Society*, and the illustrations are excellent. "Some of the Difficulties of Dramatic Literature," by Augustus W. Dubourg, "Gastronomical

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Rambles," by Sarcelle, and "How the World Wags," by Rapier, are among the best of the occasional papers, the last containing criticisms dramatic, artistic, literary and meteorological. Guy Roslyn's poem, "Old Love and New," is not the least of this month's attractions, nor should Mr. Henry Blackburn's paper, "On some Illustrated Gift Books," in which are discussed the merits of such works as "Doré's Atala," "Our British Landscape Painters," by W. B. Scott, and others, be lost sight of.

The contents of the *Argosy* are worthy of all praise. Whether we turn to the serial tales—"Darkwater," and "A Secret of the Sea,"—to "Margaret Rymer," by Johnny Ludlow, to "Madge's Sacrifice," by E. M. Alford, or to "Round about Barmouth," by the author of "A Welsh Ramble," we shall find ourselves equally pleased.

The *Gentleman's* maintains the high character it has so long held, and especially under the present editorship. Mr. Justin M'Carthy's "Dear Lady Disdain," and Mr. Frank Percival's "Al Lyn Sahib," are becoming more and more interesting as the features of the two stories gradually develope themselves. Mr. D. Christie Murray's contribution of "A Scrap of Crimean History," Camille Barrère's "Mademoiselle Desclée," and Mr. Arthur Clive's "Trammels of Poetic Expression," are also to be commended.

Belgravia contains a contribution by Mr. Sala, "Cobbett's Comedy," "Ballets and Ballet-dancers," by Dutton Cook, "A Model Epic," and an article "On Pains and Anodynes," by Charles Kidd, M.D. The "Notes from a German Band" is an affecting story, effectively told. The serials are "Hostages to Fortune," and Mrs. C. Reade's "A Study in Gray." We must not omit to state that the illustrations are admirably drawn.

In *Fraser* is continued the account of "The Early Kings of Norway." Among the other contributions we must single out the papers on "Vegetarianism," by Mr. Newman; on "German Home Life," anent the subject of "Furniture;" on the "Brussels Conference," by Mr. Henry Ottley; and on "The Finance of New Zealand," by the Premier of the Colonial Government. The first of these will find many readers, but we do not anticipate any very considerable abandonment among our brethren of their early instilled regard for flesh food. We do not admire vegetables less than we ought to do, but meat seems more acceptable, and, to our mind, more nutritious likewise. Not the least valuable of the contributions this month is a singularly well written paper by Mr. Forsyth, "On the Limits of Science." We are sure our readers will be highly gratified with the ability displayed by the writer. Karl Blind's "Personal Recollections about Ledru Rollin" is worthy also of praise.

We can single out from the *Contemporary* but two or three articles which are likely to prove of general interest. These are, Principal Tulloch's sketch of "The Author of Thorndale," Mr. Newall's "The Municipality of London," Mr. J. FitzJames Stephen's remarks on "The Laws of England as to the expression of Religious Opinion," and Father Bridgett's Paper on "The Sanctity of Dirt," in which, as we think, he fully vindicates the Church in the Middle Ages from Dr. Lyon Playfair's aspersions. Father Bridgett is evidently master of sufficient facts to upset the ex-Postmaster-General's statements. There is, moreover, in the worthy Father's method of handling his subject, a marked geniality of manner which cannot fail to influence the reader in his favour. The rest of the number is undoubtedly interesting, but to the select circles of the learned only.

Baily can never, by any possibility, be otherwise than capital reading. It always contains a good selection of subjects, and these are invariably well-handled. "The Turf in Ireland," "Sport in the Italian Alps," by "the Old Shekarry," and Country Quarters, together with "Our Van;" these are the principal attractions of the present number, which is further adorned with an apparently life-like portrait of the "Earl of Pembroke."

The opening and closing papers of *Cornhill* are devoted to fiction—Mr. Black's "Three Feathers" heading, and "Miss Angel" concluding the programme. The intermediate articles are highly interesting. "Have we two Brains?" is discussed very learnedly, and "Thoughts about Thinking" will probably set our readers thinking, even if they do not go somewhat further, and admire the thoughts of the present writer. There is also a paper on "The Coming Arctic Expedition," with the purport of which very few will be found to disagree.

Tinsley's is chiefly devoted to serial fiction—"With Harp and Crown," by the authors of "Ready Money Mortiboy," and Mr. Farjeon's "Love's Victory," being the most attractive. Dr. Maurice Davis's "The Social Status Quo," and "Full Measure," by Minnie Young, are perhaps the best of the occasional papers. But the whole number is, as usual, excellent.

We have received the first number of the *Boy's Athenæum*, a new periodical commenced this year. From the prospectus, forwarded some weeks since, we gather that the intention of the promoters is to provide a better class of magazine for boys of middle age, who were certainly placed in a gulf between *Little Folks* and the usual class of magazines. If the promise of this number is realised in the future, we think this requirement will be satisfied. The contents are varied, and the style, tone, and matter are generally good. The *Boy's Athenæum* has our very good wishes for its prosperity.

The December and January numbers of *Le Monde Maçonnique*,—an organ of French Masonry—contains an admirable collection of news, both local and foreign, of great interest to our readers. Some excellent details of Swiss, Italian, and American news will be found in its pages. The article, indeed, on Masonry in Italy, is so encouraging that we have had it rendered into English, and it will be found in another part of our columns.

Macmillan's opens with a review, by Sir Samuel Baker, of "The Last Journals of David Livingstone," which will be doubly interesting from the eminence achieved by both the journalist and the reviewer in the same field of labour. Among the other articles, Mr. Munro's on "Recent Latin Verse,"—a criticism on a recent article thereon, Mr. W. Baptiste Scoone's "On the Civil Service of England," and A. H.'s brief, but excellent obituary of Charles Kingsley, are chiefly to be commended.

Cassell's Family Magazine contains further chapters of the "Manchester Man" and "Pretty Miss Bellew," besides a capital selection of papers on various subjects. Among them may be noted Mr. Payne's very sensible article on "Kitchen Economy," and Mr. J. E. Taylor's "English Forests under the Sea."

In the *Leisure Hour*, *Sunday at Home*, *All the Year Round*, *Good Words*, *Good Things*, and in *Little Folks*, *The Quiver* and other periodicals issued by Messrs. Cassell and Co., will be found the usual quantum of readable matter. A word as to the *Popular Educator*, the new edition of which, after a course of three years, is completed this month. No more useful work of this kind exists, so far as we know, embodying, as it does, all the best information obtainable on nearly every subject under the sun. Shortly the first number of the *Technical Educator* is announced to take the place of the *Educator*. We doubt not its success will be quite as signal as that of its predecessor.

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SUBSCRIBER (York).—Thanks for your suggestion. We have considered the matter and will see what can be done.

J. G. L.—Why not purchase the book? Bro. Kenning will supply it; the price is 1s 6d.

R. A. B.—Thanks for your communication, which you will see we have made use of.

CORRESPONDENCE.

All Letters must bear the name and address of the Writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.

THE ARCHÆOLOGY OF THE CRAFT.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR,—Your article on the above subject has impressed me very deeply. Having devoted much time to the study of the History and Antiquities of Egypt, I have long held the idea that the real birthplace of Masonry as a Science is the valley of the Nile. Recent research has clearly demonstrated that the ancient people who lived at the head of the Mediterranean derived the elements of science and civilisation from Egypt. It is well known that Greece was indebted to the land of the Nile for the principles of Art. The severe beauty of the Greek temple is merely a refinement of the massive outlines which characterised the temples of Memphis and Thebes. The hand of the Greek gave to Egyptian forms a beauty they did not before possess, and the stiff conventional forms of the Egyptian artist were transformed, by the skilful hand of the Hellenic sculptor, into those graceful outlines which are still the admiration and despair of the artistic world. In proof of this we have only to turn to any good work on the grammar of art, and we shall find that the shaft, base, and capital of the column, for example, are substantially the same in Egyptian and Greek architecture. The Greek improved the proportions of the shaft, added the plinth, and reduced the capital to those severe and beautiful outlines, which are models for the architects of the modern world. The people of Tyre undoubtedly derived the arts from the Nile, and their architecture of course partook of the main features of Egypt. I have taken the trouble to compare the ground plan of the great Egyptian temples, as given in Fergusson's Handbook of Architecture, with the very full description of Solomon's Temple in the Book of Chronicles, and I venture to affirm that the main features of the latter are identical with those of the former. The so-called porch, was, no doubt, as its proportions show, merely an obelisk, or, at all events, a tower, akin to the architectural fronts of the Egyptian temples.

Trusting that you will pursue this most interesting subject further,

I remain, dear Sir, yours fraternally,

Lincoln, 4th February. ROYAL ARCH.

P.S.—Josephus affirms that the Grecian style of architecture was used in the building of the Temple at Jerusalem, but the proportions of the porch do not agree with any of the structural features of Greek architecture.

THE LIFEBOAT ENDOWMENT.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The effort being made, through the medium of your columns, to establish an Endowment Fund for the Lifeboat which has been presented to the National Association is worthy of support, and I hope to see that steps will shortly be taken to carry out this laudable movement, to assist in which I will contribute the mite of

Yours fraternally, A YOUNG MASON.

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THE THEATRES, &c.

COVENT GARDEN.—At 7.0, THE VIVANDIERE. At 7.45, THE BABES IN THE WOOD.

DRURY LANE.—At 7.0, TEN OF 'EM. At 7.30, ALADDIN.

HAYMARKET.—A FAIR ENCOUNTER, HOME and THE SERIOUS FAMILY.

ADELPHI.—At 7.0, THE DREAM AT SEA and THE CHILDREN IN THE WOOD.

PRINCESS'S.—At 7.0, THE LANCASHIRE LASS and BEAUTY AND BEAST.

LYCEUM.—At 6.50, FISH OUT OF WATER. At 7.45, HAMLET.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.0, TWENTY MINUTES WITH A TIGER. AT 7.30, THE TWO ORPHANS.

STRAND.—At 7.0, INTRIGUE. At 7.30, OLD SAILORS. At 9.15, LOO AND THE PARTY WHO TOOK MISS.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 7.45, SWEETHEARTS and SOCIETY.

GAIETY.—AT 7.0, BENGAL TIGER. At 8.15, MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR.

GLOBE.—At 7.0, A PRETTY PIECE OF BUSINESS. At 8.0, BLUE BEARD.

ROYALTY.—At 8, AWAKING. At 9, LA PERICHOLE.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.0, A WHIRLIGIG. At 7.45, OUR BOYS. At 10, ROMULUS AND REMUS.

CHARING CROSS.—At 7.30, MR. JOFFIN'S LATCH KEY. At 8.15, THE NEW MAGDALEN.

OPERA COMIQUE.—At 7.30, HOUSEHOLD FAIRY. At 8.15, LADY OF LYONS.

COURT.—At 7.30, DREADFULLY ALARMING. At 8, MAGGIE'S SITUATION. At 9, BRIGHTON.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.0, THE TWO BONNYCASTLES. At 7.45, WHITTINGTON.

CRITERION.—LES PRES SAINT GERVAIS, &c.

AMPHITHEATRE, HOLBORN.—At 7.0, THE IRISH EMIGRANT. At 8.15, BLUE BEARD.

SURREY.—FORTY THIEVES and THE SECRET.

PHILHARMONIC.—THE WATERMAN and THE BOHEMIAN GIRL.

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FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE

67 BARBICAN, E.C.

CURRENT EVENTS.

WE cannot too heartily congratulate ourselves on the utter absence of excitement which marks the opening of the present Parliamentary Session. In no other country are the evidences of perfect contentment with the *status quo* so manifest as in England. France is in the full heat of constitutional discussion, endeavouring to settle, if only for the next few years, what shall be her form of Government. The rule of Von Bismarck is endured, for Germany needs a strong arm and an iron will to guide it safely through the present ecclesiastical dissensions. The several parts of the new Empire can hardly yet be said to have been welded together into one whole, certainly not into one harmonious whole. Bavaria, during the whole course of its existence as a State, has always been intensely Romish, and Bavaria forms no inconsiderable section of the Empire. Hanover, no doubt, will bide its time, and may yet struggle to regain its autonomy when a favourable opportunity presents itself. The rule of blood and iron cannot last for ever, for the rulers are not immortal. Had Prussia been Germanised, the stability of the empire would have been more assured. As the case stands now, Germany is Prussia, Bavaria and the other small States being little more than conquered provinces. The old struggle to prevent the supremacy of any single power in Europe may be renewed at no distant date, and the boasted German unity of to-day, may once again resolve itself into its original discordant elements. Then the goodwill of Russia is not always to be relied on, and France will not soon forget her recent humiliation. Surely there is enough here to excuse any rejoicing that our United Kingdom is differently constituted from the Prussianised German Empire.

But still more satisfactory is it to feel that any serious party struggle is in the highest degree improbable. It is, of course, on the cards that the Ministry may commit some serious blunder. The sections of the Opposition may find some common ground of action, and display unwonted energy to the damage of the Conservatives. But at present, at all events, there is no sign whatever of any disturbance of the political atmosphere. The Session has commenced. The programme of the year's Parliamentary labours is before the country. It seems plain and business like, and if the year 1875 may find nothing to boast of in the way of sensational legislation, we do not doubt it will be in a position to congratulate itself on a fair amount of good and useful work. After all a year's rest from serious political excitement will do us a world of good.

Of home news there is very little to record which is not equally gratifying. The health of Bro. Prince Leopold is so far restored that we are told no further bulletins will be issued. Every one will rejoice at this intelligence, and none more than his brethren "of the mystic tie." The knotty point who shall lead "Her Majesty's Opposition" is also settled. The Marquis of Hartington is the successor of Mr. Gladstone, and the choice, perhaps, was the best that could have been made. The meeting at the Reform Club passed off admirably. Mr. Bright took the chair, and among the speakers were Messrs. Whitbread, Fawcett, C. Villiers, and S. Morley. The two former proposed a resolution of thanks to Mr. Gladstone for the services he had rendered his party; the two latter that his successor be the Marquis of Hartington. It is needless to add that both these resolutions were accepted *nem con.* The meeting then dispersed, after a cordial vote of thanks to Mr. Bright for presiding. It only remains to be seen if the whole of the Liberal party will accept the newly chosen leader. We sincerely hope so, for the reasons stated a week or two since, that a strong Opposition is almost as necessary to the State as a strong Government.

Death has been busy of late among our leading public men. Last week the Rev. Canon Kingsley, author of "Westward Ho!" and "Alton Locke," and Lord St.

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Leonards, some time Lord Chancellor, first of Ireland, then of England, passed from among us. This week a third eminent man, Professor Sir Sterndale Bennett, has been added to the list. A graceful tribute to the memory of the first of these worthies will be found in the pages of the current number of *Macmillan*. Lord St. Leonards had reached the ripe age of 94, and will be remembered as probably the profoundest lawyer of his day. In one sense, perhaps, the death of Sir Sterndale Bennett is the greatest loss of all, for in him we lose our greatest classical composer, the friend and pupil of Mendelssohn. It will be very, very long before the gap thus created in the musical world can be refilled; it may, indeed, be never. The funeral takes place to-day at Westminster Abbey, and there his last resting place will be, appropriately, with the great in literature, in science, and in statecraft, both of the past and present ages.

There is little to add. The party leaders have held their official banquets. The South Wales strike is in full vigour. The usual number of deputations have waited upon sundry of the Ministers. Abroad, the French Assembly, by a majority of 200, have accepted a Republic virtually, if not definitively. In Spain, the Carlists appear to be getting the worst of it. According to the latest advices, the Alphonsist Army is within a few miles of Estella, the chief position of Don Carlos. But we must not forget that had all the Madrid telegrams of the last year or two proved true, the Carlist forces must have been renewed and annihilated at least half-a-dozen times. It matters little, perhaps, to England whether Spain is ruled by a Don Carlos or a Don Alphonso. Certainly, the latter who is supposed to be a Constitutional King, or, at all events, his ministers on his behalf, have a happy knack of putting their foot down somewhat heavily on Protestants and Freemasons. In the United States, the action of the Federal Authorities in Louisana appears to be universally condemned. It is long since there was so much excitement in the land of the Stars and Stripes. However, *sufficit diei sua vexatio*.

The Agricultural Returns for 1874, issued by the Board of Trade, contain some interesting, and, at the same time, somewhat remarkable facts, first, as to the reclaiming of waste land, and secondly, as to the conversion of arable into pasture land. England and Scotland have alone reclaimed 1,311,000 acres between them—of which 970,000 fell to the share of the former—within the last six years. The conversion of arable into pasture land seems to meet a national *desideratum*. The effect is, of course, to increase our live stock by as much as we reduce our corn supply. The meat-eating community in these islands has increased so enormously that during the past few years the supply has not been equal to the demand, and consequently the price of meat has risen about 40 per cent. The butcher's bill is the *bête-noir* of every small household. Now it is far easier to import corn than meat, for the former keeps well. Between 1868 and 1874, over a million acres of arable land were converted into pasture in England, Scotland, and Wales. Reckoning an acre to each bullock, it requires little arithmetic to compute that such a conversion would find grazing for a million head of cattle. We imagine that if cattle-rearing and dairy produce became more generally developed in this country, the consequent loss in the corn supply might fairly be left to importations from France, Russia, and America—countries eminently productive of grain.

The Right Worshipful Robert John Bagshaw, Provincial Grand Master for Essex, has appointed Bro. Matthew Edward Clark, of London, to be his Deputy P.G.M. This appointment has been vacant since the death of Bro. Andrew Meggy in January 1873.

A correspondent in the province of Gloucestershire writes to us, suggesting that the Masons of London and its environs should contribute towards the fund now being raised for the restoration of St. Paul's Cathedral. The suggestion is a good one, and certainly merits the attention of our Metropolitan brethren, especially as the architect of that magnificent temple—Sir Christopher Wren—was a distinguished member of our Order, and ruled it for many years as Grand Master. As evidence of what our provincial brethren have done towards the restoration or adornment of provincial churches, our correspondent has forwarded an account of the sum contributed in 1873, by the Gloucestershire Lodges towards the erection of the Reredos of Gloucester Cathedral. The amount collected was somewhat in excess of £1,068, including £200 from Prov. Grand Lodge, £102 7s 6d from Lodge No. 592 (Cotteswold) and £331 7s from Lodge No. 899 (Royal Gloucestershire).

In a former number we alluded to the unpunctuality of the local trains on the Great Northern Railway, and suggested that an improvement might be looked for when the new line between Finsbury Park and Broad Street was opened. Whether it is to be attributed to this circumstance or not, we are glad to hear that, lately, the evil complained of has nearly disappeared, so far as the morning trains are concerned. There appears to be great irregularity, however, in the evening traffic, which the new line does not seem to have remedied.

The Masonic Ball at the Corn Exchange, Coventry, surpassed in magnificence almost anything of the kind which has been seen in Coventry for many a year. The room had been specially decorated by a committee of Freemasons, and the manner in which the work was carried out was fully recognised by the visitors. The plan of decoration adopted was that of a capacious drawing room, every niche around the room being draped with crimson damask, over which hung some magnificient pictures, kindly lent by Mr. Ralph Smyth, of High Street. The spaces in the corridors were also hung with crimson of a similar material, and white muslin curtains, and in the centre of each space was a beautiful plant. The orchestra, on this occasion, was perhaps the *coup d'œil* of the whole scene. It was draped with crimson damask curtains, the head piece being fringed with a deep white lace or muslin, and at the foot was placed a number of plants and flowers. Similar plants were to be seen at conspicuous points around the room, the intervals being filled in with couches and furniture. Viewed from either end, the large room presented a scene of simple magnificence, without a touch of the gaudy being discernible in any part. The ball commenced at nine o'clock; and towards ten the company began to arrive in large numbers. By midnight most of the *élite* of Coventry had assembled. The success which attended the efforts of the committee was well merited. The musical arrangements were carried out under the superintendence of Mr. George Buckingham, bandmaster to the volunteers, whose talented quadrille band gave great satisfaction. The decorations were superintended by Mr. Ralph Smyth. The refreshments were controlled by Mr. Thomas Iliffe, Drapers' Hall. The following is the programme of the dances:—Quadrille, valse, lancers, galop, valse, quadrille, schottische, galop, lancers, valse, quadrille, galop, valse, lancers, valse, quadrille, polka, galop, valse, lancers, galop, valse, galop. The number present was estimated at 300.

The lock-out in South Wales has, so far, resulted in no disturbance, with the exception of a mischievous propensity displayed by some of the idlers to lift the brakes of the waggons, causing them to run down the inclines and smash either themselves, or any obstacle they may meet in their course. The police seem to be on the alert, however, and we may expect to hear no more of this kind of amusement. A considerable number of the miners appear to have found employment with the non-associated masters. Thus, in the Rhondda Valley, out of 10,000 men usually employed, 2,000 have found work. Even where the miners are idle there are no signs of distress at present. They are said to have laid up a little store for a "rainy day," and can hold out for some time yet. We hope this is correct, for the sake of their wives and families.

According to a writer in *le Monde Maçonnique*—the Grand Lodge of Indiana, U.S., included in 1818, five Lodges. Between 1818 and 1839, thirty-six new Lodges were constituted, and in 1854, there were 164 Lodges. From its foundation, this Grand Lodge has granted Constitutions to 545 Lodges, of which about one-sixth have died out. The increase in the number of Masons has been still more rapid. In 1850, there were 112 Lodges, with an average of twenty-eight members per Lodge; in 1860, 269, with an average of thirty-six; in 1870, 421, with an

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average of fifty-five members. This average in 1873, had been raised to fifty-seven. It is further noticeable that, in 1850, there was in this State one Mason to every 345 inhabitants; in 1860, one to every 139; and in 1870, one to every seventy-one. The Grand Master of this flourishing Grand Lodge is Bro. Lucian A. Foote; the Grand Secretary, Bro. John Bramwell. There are, at the present day, in the United States, thirty-seven Grand Lodges, numbering 555,200 members, the States which contain the most Masons being New York, with 79,843; Illinois, 35,583; Pennsylvania, 34,772, and Ohio 30,300.

The formation of a tunnel under the sea between Dover and Calais has often been mentioned, but has hitherto been confined to rumour. Within the last few days the project of building this tunnel between Dover and Calais has assumed a more definite shape, and we may soon expect to hear of the actual commencement of the undertaking. We hear that a company is being formed for this purpose. We need only mention such names as Sir John Hawkshaw and Monsieur de Lesseps to have faith in the practicability of the scheme.

On Thursday, the 28th ult., in the Masonic Hall, Limerick, a presentation of plate was publicly made to Lord Dunboyne, in recognition of his services as Provincial Grand Master. His lordship, in acknowledging the compliment, promised that so long as he was spared, he would do all in his power to further the interests of the Craft. In the evening there was a sumptuous entertainment, his lordship being the principal guest.

The honours of the great American Billiard Handicap have been eventually secured by J. Roberts jun., who defeated A. Bennett in the final game. The meeting was highly successful; it brought together such celebrities as Cook, Roberts, A. and J. Bennett, Stanley, Taylor, Kilkenny and Timbrell. The financial results are also gratifying; the admissions, together with a gift of £100, by Messrs. Burroughes and Watts, having produced about £550, which, after deduction of expenses, will be divided among the eight competitors.

Our brethren of Lincolnshire are coming well to the front. They headed the list of Provinces subscribing to the Boys' School last year, and are now in the same honourable position with regard to the R. M. B. I., their contribution to which is £573. One of their Stewards, the Rev. Bro. Daniel Ace, D.D., who has for two years officiated as Provincial Grand Chaplain, and who now holds similar office under the Mark Degree, is well known for his forcible Masonic Sermons, and luminous treatment of advanced social problems.

We read that the Second King of Siam has fled for protection to the house of the British Consul-General. We presume this to be the same Prince who, under the rule of the late First King was so esteemed and respected by Europeans for his tolerance and love of European literature. He is, we believe, one of the few Siamese *literati* who possess the key to those remarkable inscriptions which are still legible on the enormous ruins, of forgotten cities in the dense forests bordering upon Siam and Cambodia, which but few have ever reached after weeks of tropical travel, up the pestilential river that winds through the dense jungle which has overrun them.

Bro. Clarence Holt has created a *furore* at the Oxford, by his delineation of the characters of Sir Walter Scott. Bro. Holt's faithful representations nightly receive well-merited applause.

A Lodge of Instruction, under the warrant of the Egyptian Lodge, No. 27, will be held at Bro. T. J. Maidwell's, the Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall Street, every Thursday evening. Commencing on the 11th inst.

The St. James Union Lodge of Instruction, No. 180, has removed from the Horse and Groom, Winsley Street, Oxford Street, to the Union Tavern, Air Street, Piccadilly. On Wednesday last the 15 sections were worked by the members of the Salisbury Lodge of Instruction. Bro. J. Mander W.M. occupied the chair, and above forty brethren were present on that occasion.

That the energies of Masons, when roused to energy, can produce excellent results is shown by the following figures, representing the sums severally contributed by the seven East-end Lodges who sent stewards to the Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

		£	s	d
Sincerity, No. 174	Bro. E. J. Hilliard	51	10	0
Yarborough, No. 554	„ J. J. Berry	168	10	0
Duke of Edinbro', No. 1259	„ S. Weatherill	165	0	0
Burdett Coutts, No. 1278	„ W. J. Crutch	103	10	0
Clapton, No. 1365	„ C. B. Miles	65	0	0
Longthorne, No. 1421	„ C. W. Ashdown	40	0	0
Prince Leopold, No. 1445	„ W. T. Howe	105	5	0
Amounting in the aggregate to		£698	15	0

On Ash Wednesday the Moore and Burgess Minstrels will give their entertainment at the Theatre Royal Drury Lane, in consequence of their own Hall being closed on that date, pursuant to the Act of Parliament of the 25th of George II. We understand the company will be greatly augmented on this occasion.

A complimentary farewell banquet was tendered by the Sydney Lodge of Mark Masters to Brother Senior Warden John Leveson, Past Master of the Zetland Lodge, No. 655, E.C., Past 2nd Principal H. Zetland Chapter of Australia, No. 390, E.C., Past Pro. G. L. Officer, New South Wales, E.C., on his approaching departure for England, which was numerously attended.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY NEWS.

FRIDAY.

THE actual commencement of a lock-out in South Wales, with its attendant evils, is not the least important event in the commercial annals of the week. In a business view also the strain upon our coin reserve has been unusually severe the last few days, but it is hoped that the necessity for such heavy withdrawals as have recently taken place, will soon have ceased to exist, and the balance at the Bank restored to its normal condition. The fact of no change having been made in the quotation after the meeting yesterday is looked upon with a certain amount of satisfaction, as it seemed to be accepted as more than probable that a move to a higher figure would have to be resorted to. Such not being the case, the markets are gaining ground a little, although there are circumstances which require to be taken into account when reviewing the situation, of an exceptional character. The late trial for libel in the *Times* has had its effect on the public mind, and the investigation now going on in another case is not without some influence in deterring speculators from entering into fresh engagements. For these reasons, then, the markets may be described as extremely quiet, and there is evident reluctance to deal with many of the new properties that have lately been brought forward. The instances of "plunder" have been too numerous, unfortunately, in recent times, to be easily forgotten, and it behoves the investor to watch carefully and inquire closely before parting with his or her money. What are known as Trust investments are, although a new medium of employing capital, a recognised feature in the Stock Exchange list, and as we intend occasionally to point out the merits of different undertakings, we propose to supplement the remarks which have, from time to time appeared here, with a few words respecting "Trusts." The principle on which these Trusts are based, is that of averaging the risk of investments by the division of capital amongst a number of different securities. The capital of the trust is put into a number of Stocks of that particular class, with which it deals, and the dividends arising therefrom, are employed, in most cases, in paying interest on the Trust Certificates at a certain fixed rate, and the surplus, in reducing the certificates by drawings. These are the leading features, although not all, but as a rule, the security is considered fairly good, and in cases where the design confines the Trust solely to the investment of its capital in different stocks, the character of the security must depend on the discrimination which has been used in dividing the capital and employing it. In selecting one of these Trusts for an investment all the best available information should be obtained, the last report of the directors or trustees, the report of the last meeting of certificate holders, and if possible a list of the securities held in trust.

The English Funds are fairly quoted, and no adverse movement is reported in this quarter.

For Home Railways there has not been quite such a brisk demand, although the proceedings have not actually changed to weakness. Good dividends have been notified in several instances, and it is to be greatly regretted that a want of harmony in working arrangements between companies prevents the shareholders from reaping the benefits that would otherwise be secured.

The foreign market is moderately firm, and if indications of smoothness could be relied upon, in connection with the money market, it is propable that a firmer feeling would lead to still better prospects.

There are scarcely any new features in regard to American or

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Miscellaneous Shares. Colonial Government Bonds have, however, been actively taken up at higher values.

The half-yearly meeting of the Great Northern Railway Company will be held on the 20th inst., to receive the directors' report, and to authorise the raising of fresh capital.

The directors of the Imperial Gas Light and Coke Company announce to their customers that there will be a reduction in the price of gas supplied by the company, from the 1st January last, to the extent of 11d per 1,000 cubic feet. The reduced price for the current year will be at the rate of 3s 9d per 1,000 cubic feet.

Messrs. Crawshay have given their colliers, in the Forest of Dean, notice of a reduction of 5 per cent. in wages.

A new service of trains have been organised on the Metropolitan Railway, running through to Liverpool Street for the Great Eastern line. A large number of passengers have already availed themselves of this new extension system.

The Corporation of Dublin, it is said, intend presenting a memorial to the Lord Lieutenant, praying that the Government will lend them a sum of £150,000, in addition to the £350,000 which it will be remembered was borrowed some short time since to carry on the main-drainage scheme for Dublin, originally proposed by Sir J. Basalgette. The rate of interest to be allowed is 3 per cent.

The following statement shows the receipts for traffic on the undermentioned railways for the past week, as compared with the corresponding week in 1874 :—

Railway.	Miles open. 1875	1874	Receipts. 1875 £	1874 £
Caledonian	737	731	52,774	49,690
Glasgow and South Western	315	315	15,416	15,251
Great Eastern	763	762	44,657	42,101
Great Northern	515	513	53,237	50,112
Great Western	1,525	1,502	97,502	102,183
Lancashire and Yorkshire	430	428	62,069	59,034
London and Brighton	376	376	24,912	24,433
London, Chatham and Dover	153	138	15,122	14,058
London and North Western	1,582	1,575	163,380	157,524
London, Tilbury and Southend	42	42	—	—
Manchester and Sheffield	259	258	31,359	28,902
Midland	944	883	110,136	101,470
Metropolitan	7½	7½	8,722	8,373
" " District	8	6¼	5,350	4,469
" " St. John's Wood	1½	1½	—	—
North British	889	820	40,481	37,987
North Eastern	1,379	1,379	120,727	118,274
North London	12	12	6,797	6,695
North Staffordshire Railway	190	185	10,526	10,442
" " Canal	118	118	1,577	1,697
South Eastern	350	347	28,122	27,837

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Ever Useful.—The afflicted by illness should look their diseases fully in the face, and at once seek a remedy for them. A short search will convince the most sceptical that these noble medicaments have afforded ease, comfort, and oftentimes complete recovery, to the most tortured sufferer. The Ointment will cure all descriptions of sores, wounds, bad legs, sprains, eruptions, erysipelas, rheumatism, gout and skin affections. The Pills never fail in correcting and strengthening the stomach, in restoring a deranged liver to wholesome condition, in rousing torpid kidneys, to increase the secretions, and in re-establishing the natural and healthy activity of the bowels. Holloway's are the remedies for complaints of all classes of society.

DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be greatly obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the kingdom would favour us with a copy of their summonses each time of issue.

SATURDAY, 6th FEBRUARY.

Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Middlesex and Surrey, on Saturday, 6th February, Bridge House Hotel, London-bridge, at 5.
General Committee, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
143—St. Thomas's, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.

SUNDAY, 7th FEBRUARY.

K. T.—Prince Edward, Stansfeld.

MONDAY, 8th FEBRUARY.

5—St. George and Corner Stone, Freemasons' Hall.
29—St. Albans, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
50—Royal Naval, Freemasons' Hall.
90—St. John's, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
136—Good Report, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
173—Temple Lodge of Mark Master Masons, Green Dragon, Stepney, at 5.
193—Confidence, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet street.
212—St. Andrews, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
257—Leigh, Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 22—Mount Sion, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.
R. A. 720—Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham.
R. A. 1319—Asaph, Freemasons' Hall.

75—Love and Honour, Masonic Hall, Falmouth.
296—Royal Brunswick, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
1221—Defence, Masonic Hall, Leeds.

TUESDAY, 9th FEBRUARY.

46—Old Union, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
95—Burlington, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
169—Union, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
180—St. James's Union, Freemasons' Hall.
196—Percy, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
211—St. Michael's, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
228—United Strength, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell.
235—Nine Muses, Queen's Hotel, Cork-street, Bond-street.
846—Wellington, White Swan Tavern, Deptford.
834—Ranelagh, Clarendon Arms Hotel, Hammersmith.
917—Cosmopolitan, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
933—Doric, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
R. A. 145—Prudent Brethren, Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 185—Jerusalem, Freemasons' Hall.

486—Wakefield, Masonic Hall, Wakefield.
908—Zetland, Royal Hotel, Cleckheaton.
R. A. 339—Fidelity, Leeds.

WEDNESDAY, 10th FEBRUARY.

Committee, Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, at 3.
3—Fidelity, Freemasons' Hall.
9—Albion, Regents' Masonic Hall, Air-street, Regent-street.
11—Enoch, Freemasons' Hall.
13—Union, Waterloo, Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich.
15—Kent, Freemasons' Hall.
87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth.
147—Justice, White Swan, High-street, Deptford.
236—Pilgrim, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
749—Belgrave, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, Limehouse.
1017—Montefiore, Freemasons' Hall.
1260—Hervey, Freemasons' Hall.
1305—St. Marylebone, Eyre Arms Tavern, St. John's Wood.
1306—St. John of Wapping, Gun Tavern, High-street, Wapping.

1016—Shakespeare, Freemasons' Hall, Bradford.
R. A. 290.—Prosperity, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield.

THURSDAY, 11th FEBRUARY.

19—R. Athelstan, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
91—Regularity, Freemasons' Hall.
206—Friendship, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
263—Bank of England, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
534—Polish National, Freemasons' Hall.
657—Canonbury, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
860—Dalhousie, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
879—Southwark, Southwark Park Tavern, Southwark.
1076—Capper, Marine Hotel, Victoria Docks, West Ham.
1216—Macdonald, Head Quarters 1st Surrey Volunteer Corps, Brunswick-road, Camberwell.
1471—Islington, Cock Tavern, Highbury.
R. A. 140—St. George, Globe Tavern, Royal Hill, Greenwich.
R. A. 538—Vane, Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.

130—Britannia, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
K. T.—Salamanca, Halifax.

FRIDAY, 12th FEBRUARY.

33—Britannic, Freemasons' Hall.
134—Caledonian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
157—Bedford, Freemasons' Hall.
177—Cavear, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
1430—Earl Spencer, Freemasons' Hotel, New Wandsworth.
R. A. 6—Friendship, Willis's Rooms, King-street, St. James's.

456—Aire and Calder, Onse-street, Goole.
1001—Harrogate and Claro, Masonic Rooms, Harrogate.

SATURDAY, 13th FEBRUARY.

108—London, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
173—Phœnix, Freemasons' Hall.
1328—Granite, Freemasons' Hall.
1361—United Service, Greyhound, Richmond, Surrey.
1428—Great City, Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
1446—Mount Edgcumbe, Swan Tavern, Bridge-road, Battersea.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—145—St. Stephen, St. James's Hall, Writer's-court.
TUESDAY—1—Mary's Chapel, Waterloo Hotel, Waterloo-place.
WEDNESDAY—2—Canongate, Kilwinning-street, St. John's Chapel, St. John-street.
" R. A. 1—Edinburgh, Freemasons' Hall.
THURSDAY—6—Journeymen, Blackfriars-street, High-street.
FRIDAY—56—Canongate, Kilwinning-street, St. John's Chapel, St. John's-st.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England.—This Chapter was held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, on the 3rd instant., Comp. Hugh Sandeman D.G.M. (Bengal) as G.Z., Col. F. Burdett P.G.M. (Middlesex) as H., A. Rawson D.G.M. (China) as J., J. E. Saunders P.G.D., S. N. Rucker G.P.S. P.S., Snell 1st Assistant G.S.S., J. Nunn 2nd Assistant G.S.S. being present. The minutes of the last quarterly convocation having been read and confirmed, the following report of the Committee of General Purposes was read and adopted :—

The Committee of General Purposes begged to report that they have examined the accounts from the 21st October 1874 to the 19th January 1875, both inclusive, which they find to be as follows :—Receipts, including a balance on 15th July of £306 15s 4d, £690 9s 4d; disbursements, including a balance in hand amounting to £526 4s, £690 9s 4d. It should be added that the balance is in the hands of Messrs. Willis, Percival and Co., bankers of the Grand Treasurer. The Committee likewise reported that they had received the following petitions, viz. :—

1st.—From Companions Henry Elmhurst Reader as Z., John Le Marchand Carey as H., Peter Alexander Chavannes as J., and seven others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Pacific Lodge, No. 517, Wellington, New Zealand, to be called "The Wellington Union Chapter," and to meet at the Masonic Hall, Wellington, New Zealand.

2nd.—From Companions William Henry Jones as Z., Antoine Louis Le Franc as H., Prosonno Coomar Dutt as J., and thirteen others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Anchor and Hope Lodge, No. 234, Calcutta, to be called "The New Union Chapter," and to meet at the Freemasons' Hall, Calcutta, Bengal.

3rd.—From Companions George Blake as Z., William Henry Mackesy as H., Henry Thomas Tanner as J., and six others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Mayo Lodge, No. 1413, Rawul Pindee, to be called "The Locke Chapter," and to meet at Rawul Pindee, Punjab.

4th.—From Companions Thomas Stalkartt Carter as Z., John Lowthin as H., William Cathush as J., and six others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Gladsmuir Lodge, No. 1383, Barnet, to be called "The Gladsmuir Chapter," and to meet at the Red Lion Hotel, Barnet, in the County of Hertford.

5th.—From Companions George Keen Lemann as Z., William West Smith as H., Henry McPherson as J., and eleven others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Hornsey Lodge, No. 890, London, to be called "The Hornsey Chapter," and to meet at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, in the City of London.

6th.—From Companions William Stephens as Z., Charles Robert Miles as H., William Lutwyche as J., and six others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Clapton Lodge, No. 1365, Clapton, to be called

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"The Clapton Chapter," and to meet at the White Hart Tavern, Upper Clapton, in the County of Middlesex.

7th.—From Companions the Rev Spencer Robert Wigram as Z., Edward England Phillips as H., Albert Lucking as J., and eight others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Priory Lodge, No. 1,000, Southend, to be called "The Priory Chapter," and to meet at the Middleton Hotel, Southend in the County of Essex.

The foregoing petitions being in all respects regular, the Committee recommend that the prayers thereof be respectively granted.

The Committee have likewise received the following petitions:—

8th.—From Companions Robert Scott as Z., Charles Henry Phillips as H., Charles Frederick Besson as J., and eight others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Royal Philanthropic Lodge, No. 405, Trinidad, to be called "The Royal Philanthropic Chapter," and to meet at Port of Spain, Trinidad, in the West Indies.

9th.—From Companions James McDonald Reid as Z., Paulin Josse De Lisle as H., Charles Frederick Oda Rooks as J., and seven others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Prince of Wales' Lodge, No. 876, Trinidad, to be called "The Prince of Wales' Chapter," and to meet at Port of Spain, Trinidad, in the West Indies.

These two petitions, subject to the confirmation of the new law No. 51, passed at the last Convocation of Grand Chapter, rendering Foreign Past Masters eligible for election to the chairs in an English Chapter, are in all respects regular, and the Committee recommend that the prayers thereof be respectively granted.

The foregoing resolutions having been unanimously confirmed, the Grand Chapter was closed. Among those present were Companions James Brett, J. Smith, Browning, H. Browse, Griffiths, Smith, Stephens, C. Hogard, Hadley, H. Muggeridge, Robinson, Dodd, Derry, Parkinson, T. Fenn, H. Thomas, White, H. Massey, H. G. Buss, Copestake, Frampton, Birdseye, H. M. Levy, &c.

Grand Lodge of Scotland.—The quarterly communication of the Grand Lodge of Freemasons of Scotland was held on Monday, the 1st inst., in Freemasons' Hall, George-street, Edinburgh. There was a large attendance of the brethren, the West of Scotland being especially well represented. In the unavoidable absence of the Most Worshipful Grand Master (Sir Michael Shaw Stewart), the throne was occupied by Brother Henry Inglis of Torsonce, Past Substitute Grand Master, supported by Brother Wm. Mann (Past Grand Warden) Acting Senior Grand Warden, Bro. F. A. Barrow (Senior Grand Deacon) Acting Junior Grand Warden, Rev. A. Thomson Grant Grand Chaplain, Bro. Laurie Grand Secretary, &c. Amongst the other brethren present were W. Hay J.G.D., J. Coghill G.D.C., Capt. Colt of Gartsheine G.S.B., D. Robertson G.B.B., and M. Mackenzie C.G.M., &c., Mr. Roger Montgomerie, M.P., and Mr. Charles Dalrymple, M.P. The Grand Lodge was opened in due form, and apologies for unavoidable absence were intimated from Sir Michael Shaw Stewart M.W.G.M., the Right Hon. the Earl of Rosslyn P.G.M., Captain J. T. Oswald S.G.M., Major H. Ramsay of Garion, Bro. F. S. Melville President of the Board of Grand Stewards, Bro. W. Officer P.G.D. &c. There were laid on the table presents from the Grand Lodges of France, Nova Scotia, Brazil, Ohio, Egypt, Missouri and Hungary, being the published reports of their Grand Lodges. The minutes of the Grand Committee were afterwards read. Petitions for charters for the following Lodges were presented:—"La Vallée de France," Lima; "Independencia," Callao; "Virtud y Union Reguierada," Lima; "Constancia y Concordia," Tacna; "Salem," Ahmedabad; "The Bonnie Doon," Patna; "Star of the West," Parkes N.S.W.; and "Lodge of Polynesia," Fiji. The petitions were granted, that for the "Bonnie Doon" having created discussion, but being ultimately agreed to by a large majority. There was also presented a petition for charter to the lodge, "Dailly Ferguson, St. James," in Ayrshire, which had been sent to the Secretary that day, and it was remitted to Grand Committee, with powers, should they see fit, to grant the charter. On the recommendation of the Grand Committee, Bro. J. M. Reid was appointed Prov. Grand Master for Trinidad, and Sir John Ogilvie Bart. P.G.M. for Forfarshire, in room of the late Earl of Dalhousie. A communication from the Grand Lodge of England was intimated, stating that it would be pleasing to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales G.M. elect of the Grand Lodge of England if the representative at that Grand Lodge, in room of the late Sir James C. P. Murray, were conferred on the Earl of Rosslyn P.G.M. of Scotland. On the communication being read, the appointment was unanimously agreed to. The credentials of the Earl of Dunmore, as representative in Scotland of the Grand Lodge of Hungary, were presented, and his Lordship's appointment was confirmed. Letters of condolence on the death of the Earl of Dalhousie were read from the Grand Orient of France and the Lodge Dalhousie, Mass., U.S., and it was remitted to the Grand Committee to prepare and transmit appropriate replies. Notice was given of a motion, to be tabled for next meeting, having for its object the constitution of Immediate Past Masters as members of Provincial Grand Lodges. This concluded the business, and Grand Lodge was closed in due form.

Kendal Castle Chapter, No. 129.—The annual Convocation of this flourishing Chapter, was held at the Masonic Hall, Stramoudgate, Kendal, at high twelve, on Thursday, 28th January. The Chapter was opened in due form by their excellencies, Comp. C. G. Thompson M.E.Z., T. Wilson H., H. Rauthmel J.; assisted by M. E. Comp. Colonel Whitwell M.P., P.Z., P.G. P.S. of England, John Bowes P.Z., P. Prov. G.S.B., John Holme P.Z., William Dodd P.Z., &c. There was a numerous attendance of companions, and amongst the visitors Comp. Thomas Tunstall Asst. Sej., Chapter of Elias Ashmole 148. On the invitation of the M.E.Z., E. Comp. Bowes, assumed the chair of Z., and announced that Bros. John Talbot and Godfrey had been duly elected at the previous Convocation, and were now in attendance and bade the P.S. to do his duty. In due course the two brethren were introduced and solemnly and duly exalted, the acting M.E.Z., being most efficiently assisted by the P.S. Comp. Nelson. After the transaction of some routine business, M.E. Comp. Colonel Whitwell presented the principals elect, Comps. T. Wilson, H. Rauthmel and the Rev. Canon Ware to E. Comp. Bowes, as Installing Principal, for the benefit of installation; after which they were addressed, and retired, and afterwards severally admitted into solemn conclave of installed principals according to ancient custom. The newly elected officers were then invested, and on the completion of the ceremonies, M.E. Comp. Col. Whitwell proposed, in eulogistic terms, a cordial vote of thanks to the Installing Principal for his valuable services that day. The Chapter was then duly closed.

Union Lodge, No. 129, Kendal.—This old Lodge held its annual meeting on Thursday, 28th January, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. There was an unusually large gathering of brethren. W.M. Bro. Joseph Bintley, Prov. G.S. of Wks. assumed the chair, and, assisted by his wardens, opened the Lodge. The minutes having been read and confirmed, and the Lodge opened in the second degree, the W.M. invited W. Bro. John Bowes P.M. P. Prov. G. Reg. to take the chair. The W.M. then presented Bro. John Talbot S.W., W.M. elect, for the benefit of installation, which ceremony was impressively rendered, in ample form. At the request of the installing master, W. Bro. W. Dodd P.M. P. Prov. G.P. delivered the addresses to the W.M. and Wardens. The new officers having been invested, the thanks of the brethren were accorded to Bro. Bowes for his valuable services, the Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the King's Arms Hotel, for the banquet, which was of a *recherché*, character, and gave unqualified satisfaction in every respect. The W.M. Bro. Talbot presided, and was supported by the R.W.D.P.G.M. Colonel Whitwell, M.P., Bros. Rev. J. Chaplain, Dr. Page W.M. No. 1074, T. Wilson P.M., W. Dodd P.M., Rev. Wright Chap., Joseph Bintley I.P.M., John Bowes P.M. &c., John Holme P.M. P. Prov. G.S.W., Thomas Tunstall J.W. No. 148, and about sixty brethren. Grace having been said by the chaplain, the W.M. proposed the usual loyal toasts in appropriate terms. Bro. John Bowes P.M. proposed the next toast, "The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon M.W. Prov. G.M., the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale R.W. D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers." He said that those brethren who were present when the Noble Lord installed the Prov. G.M. of East Lancashire, in the great Free-trade Hall in Manchester, would not soon forget the able and impressive manner in which that ceremony was rendered by their noble brother. Of Lord Skelmersdale he could say a good deal, and from personal knowledge; he was essentially a "working" Mason, and they felt proud that such noblemen came willingly forward to promulgate the genuine principles and tenets of their noble Order. The other Grand Officers were at all times chosen, not only for their high social rank, but also from the warm interest they took in the Craft. Happy indeed was he to be able to couple with the toast one of themselves, a brother dear to all of them,—their own Deputy Grand Master. He was indeed a distinguished brother, and one ever ready to prove the dignity and high importance of Freemasonry. That the Grand Master should appoint Colonel Whitwell one of his Wardens in the Grand Lodge surprised none of them. He then called upon Colonel Whitwell, M.P., to respond. The D.P.G.M. replied in eloquent terms. After giving expression to the pleasure it gave him to meet his brethren in his Mother Lodge, he referred to the hold that Freemasonry had upon people of all nations. He traced its history from time immemorial, and pictured the importance of its symbolism. When he joined their time-honoured Craft, some of his friends outside their sacred precints expressed their belief that Freemasonry was a "delusion," yea more, "a snare." Not long ago, when they lost their highly esteemed head, the unenlightened thought their days, as a society, were numbered; but what was the fact? They lost a nobleman, to obtain a prince of royal blood! Colonel Whitwell concluded by congratulating the W.M. and all present on the great increase in their numbers locally, and the more general desire to become better acquainted with the deeper meaning of their various teachings. The health of the W.M. was proposed by Bro. Colonel Whitwell who said that the position Bro. Talbot held that day was a proof of the high estimation in which he was held by his brethren and fellows. He congratulated the Lodge at having at its head a brother whom to know was to esteem. The toast was most enthusiastically drunk. The W.M., in responding, said he was fully sensible of the great responsibility he had taken upon himself that day; but he hoped that with the aid of his officers he should be enabled to merit the approbation of the brethren. Bro. C. G. Thomson P.M. P. Pro. G. Reg. propsed the health of the I.P.M. Bro. Joseph Bintley, whom he highly eulogised. They were a large, strong and united Lodge, and Bro. Bintley had contributed his full share to their prosperity and well being. Very cordially, therefore, he proposed his health. The I.P.M., in responding, referred at length to the great zeal and ability of his predecessors, and said that if his efforts to promote the general good of the Lodge met with their approval he had every reason to be satisfied. He then pointed out how necessary it was for the subordinate officers to render ready and willing service to the W.M., and concluded his remarks by a complimentary reference to the W.M. Bro. D. Page M.D. W.M. No. 1074 proposed "The wardens and officers of No. 129." Bros. Grayson, Nelson and Rev. J. Chaplain respouded. Bro. John Holme P.M. P. Prov. G. Warden proposed "The visiting brethren." Bros. Dodd, Bell, Pusey, Tunstall and others responded. The S.W. having proposed "The Masonic Charities," the W.M. called upon Bro. Bowes to respond to the same, which he did, and gave a succinct account of each of the charities, and advocated the formation of a local one, similar in character and design to the West Lancashire Educational Institution. Bro. Holme said there was one toast which did not appear on the list, but which was nevertheless an important one. They had done honour to the officers past and present, from the W.M. downwards, but the bulk of the brethren were not aspirants for office, and yet they contributed materially to the prosperity of the Lodge. He had pleasure in proposing their good health; Bro. Tattersall responded. Bro. Baron proposed the final toast,

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which was drunk in solemn silence. We must not omit to notice the excellent singing, under the direction of the Organist, Bro. Godfrey. Both songs and glees were well rendered, by Bros. Godfrey, Eli Cox, Thomas, Tunstall, Pusey and others.

Industry Lodge No. 186.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, the 26th January, at The Restaurant, No. 2 Westminster Chambers, Bro. Seex P.M. occupied the chair in the absence of the W.M., Bro. D. Beck Wylie S.W., Dyer J.W., W. Mann P.M. Secretary, and Bros. Noehemer, T. S. Mortlock, Price and Tallant P.M.'s, Bros. Allison and Beach were passed to the second degree. Messrs. Harry and Weil were initiated into the Order by Bro. W. Mann P.M. A Board of Installed Masters was then formed, and Bro. J. E. Wyllie S.W. was installed into the chair by Bro. Seex I.P.M. in a very perfect manner. The W.M. then appointed his officers as follows, viz., Bro. Dyer S.W., Black J.W., Lake P.M. Treasurer, W. Mann P.M. Secretary, Duggett S.D., Mole J.D., Noehemer P.M., D.C. A sum of £10 10s was placed on the list of Bro. Seex, who is steward at the next festival for the Boys' School, and in the course of the evening a P.M.'s collar, with a very elegant silver jewel attached, with suitable inscription, was presented to that brother for the able and efficient manner he had conducted the duties of the chair during the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. Beck. A very excellent banquet was given, and the usual routine toasts followed, and found very able exponents, particularly the visitors, among whom were Bros. C. A. Cottebrune P.G.P., F. Binckes P.G.S. and Secretary Boys' School, Parsons W.M. St. James's Union, Headon W.M. Great City Lodge, Moody P.M. Great Northern, Coard P.M., Wallbancke P.M., &c. A very agreeable and harmonious evening was passed, to which Bros. Chubb, Smith, Carter and Smith, and the Misses May, Woodville, Bliss and Florence Woodville lent their valuable assistance, under the direction of Bro. Hook.

Lodge of Joppa, No. 188.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, the 1st inst., at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate Street. Bros. S. L. Hickman W.M., A. Dodson S.W., L. Lazarus J.W., A. Auerhaan Treasurer, E. P. Albert P.M. Secretary, Miller S.D., A. Auerhaan I.G., P. E. Van Noorden Organist, Woodstock Tyler. Past Masters Bros. O. Roberts I.P.M., L. Alexander, H. Berkowitz, B. W. Aaron, I. Abrahams, Hunt and H. M. Levy. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. I. Botibol and S. Botibol were raised to the third degree, and Bros. Samuel, Skinner and Pearce were passed to the second degree. Mr. Elias Harriss, being in attendance, was duly initiated into the Order by the W.M., in a very excellent manner. Bro. H. M. Levy P.M. then proposed, and Bro. Israel Abrahams P.M. seconded, that a letter of condolence be sent to the Right W. Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon Prov. Grand Master expressing the united sympathies of the brethren on his sad bereavement, and also that the same be entered on the minutes of the Lodge. The resolution was carried unanimously. Bro. Joel Emanuel P.M. 205 was proposed as a joining member. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to slight refreshment. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given. Bro. B.W. Aaron P.M. returned thanks for the Benevolent Fund very eloquently. He stated the newly initiated candidate, Bro. Harriss, had given 21s to that Fund. Bro. Israel Abrahams then gave the sum of 5 guineas to the Benevolent Fund attached to the Lodge, and the W.M. gave the sum of 21s. Bro. Roberts proposed the toast of the W.M., and spoke of his capital working and able presidency. The W.M. responded; he then proposed the toast of the visitors, Bros J. Levison P.M. 656, Sydney, Monington 890, C. Hogan I.P.M. 205, Franks 212, Praeger 15, Crump 1227, T. Smith 1155, Walter 87, Philips 205, Birch 192. Bro. C. Hogan P.M. 205, and W.M. 453, returned thanks. Bro. O. Boberts returned thanks for the Past Masters. The toasts of the Wardens and Officers followed, also that of the Treasurer and Secretary, the former being unavoidably absent through indisposition. The Tyler's toast concluded a very agreeable evening.

New Concord Lodge.—The above Lodge met on Thursday, 28th Jan. at the Rosemary Branch, Hoxton, Bro. T. Bartlett P.M. W.M. (who occupied that chair for the second year), H. J. Gabb S.W. T. Gallant J.W., Cusworth S.D., Harper J.D., W. M. Main P.M. Secretary, Harriss I.G., Wilkinson D.C., Walesby Organist, Stead, S. J. Emmens P.M., and a numerous attendance of the brethren. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. Gabb, Shipway and Swales were raised to the third degree, and Bros. Foye and Baylis were passed to the second degree. Mr. Westfield L.C.P. F.R.S.A., principal of Leyton College, Essex, was initiated into the Order by the W.M., whose perfect working is a pattern worthy of imitation by the Craft. Bro. Cusworth S.D. announced his intention to act as steward for the Boys' School. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet, which was provided by Bro. Gabb. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given. Bros. Hubbau, Vernon, Walesby, Morrison, W. S. Taylor and Wicks contributing to the harmony. The visitors were Bros. Parker P.M. 619, Turner 754, Denham 41 and Hall 898.

Lodge of Israel, No. 205.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, the 26th inst., at the Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, Bro. Joel Emanuel W.M. in the chair; Buckland S.W., supported by the Wardens, Officers and Past Masters. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Messrs. Fulford, Jones, Flattelli and Hyams were initiated into the Order. Bro. F. Buckland W.M. elect and S.W. was then duly installed into the chair by Bro. C. Hogan P.M., in a careful and perfect manner. The newly installed W.M. then appointed his officers as follows, viz., Bros. L. Jacobs S.W., A. Auerhaan J.W., G. Coote P.M. Treasurer, A. M. Cohen P M. Secretary, Cohen S.D., Hall J.D., Bassington I.G., and Vesper Tyler. The Lodge was then called off, and the brethren partook of a very capital banquet, provided by Bro. Sidney Spencer, and superintended by Bro. Silver. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, also the health of the W.M. In proposing the toast of the Past Master who had just vacated the chair, the W.M. had pleasure in presenting him, in the name of the Lodge, with a very elegant and artistically designed epergne and a Past Master's gold jewel in recognition of his services during the past year, and those valuable gifts were duly acknowledged by the recipient, Bro. Joel Emanuel I.P.M. The Officers, Wardens, and the Tyler's toast concluded a very agreeable evening. For the toast of the visitors, Bro. Hickmann W.M. 188, and Bro. Constable W.M. 185, returned thanks. Among those present we noticed Bros. Grunebaum W.M. 1017, E. P. Albert P.M. 188, Llewellyn P.M. 34, Saunders 889 and 1503, Bond 889, Honeville 889, Vinette 1194, Porter 889, Stephens 449, L. M. Auerhaan 118, L. Lazarus J.W. 188, Abraham 898, Dobie (St. Paul's), Kent 1297 and Martin 188.

Royal Oak Lodge, No. 871.—A meeting of this Lodge was held at the White Swan Tavern, 217 High-street, Deptford, on the 28th January. Bros. G. Andrews W.M., Lewin S.W., Tuson J.W., Andrews P.M. Treasurer, Fk. Walters P.M. P.G.P. (Middlesex) Secretary, Pakes S.D., H. J. Wells J.D., J. Baxter Langley I.G., Fisher Organist, Dawe M.C., Linn W.S., P.M.'s Gerryatt Collington, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. J. Grindley, G. Jones, T. Frith and W. M. Chartres 1423, were passed to the second degree. The election of the W.M. took place, and Bro. Lewin S.W. was unanimously elected to fill that office. Bro. W. Andrews P.M. was re-elected Treasurer, and Bavin Tyler. The Lodge was then closed. The visitors were Bros. H. R. Harker 79, Beaver 700, W. Laing P.M. 1326, Baldwin 1423, Chartres 1423, &c.

Priory Lodge, No. 1,000, Southend.—This flourishing Lodge held its annual meeting on Tuesday, 26th ult., in the Lodge room, at the Middleton Hotel, Southend, for the installation of the W.M. The Lodge was opened at two o'clock. After the preliminary business had been disposed of, the W.M. elect, Bro. Albert Lucking P.M. No. 160, and Provincial G.A.D. of Ceremonies, was duly installed Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, the ceremony being performed by the Worshipful Bro. Rev. S. R. Wigram P.M. and P.Z. No. 214. Worshipful Bro. William Pissey P.M. No. 160 and P.P.J.G. Warden, acting as director of the ceremonies. The W.M. afterwards appointed and invested his officers as follows:—Bros. E. E. Phillips P.M. No. 379 (Bath) as S.W., Rev. S. R. Wigram P.M. and P.Z. No. 214, and P.P.G. Chaplain, as J.W. and Chaplain, Frederick Wood P.M. No. 1,000, and P.P.S.G.W. re-elected Treasurer, J. A. Wardell P.M No. 1,000 W.M. No. 160 and P.P.G.D. reappointed Secretary, W. Frost S.D., W. P. Bellis J.D., Rowley P.M. 1,000 D.C., Chignell I.G., S. J. Weston and F. Cantor Stewards, Mountain Tyler. After the Lodge was closed, the brethren—about thirty-two in number—sat down to a sumptuous banquet, provided by Bro. F. Cantor, of the Middleton Hotel. The following Past Masters, Past and Present Provincial Grand Officers and visitors were present:—A. Lucking P.M. No. 160, W.M. No. 1,000, Prov. G.A.D.C., Frederick Wood P.M. No. 1,000 and P.P.S.G.W., James Willing J. W. No. 877 (Domatic), and W.M. No. 1507 (Metropolitan), William Pissey P.M. No. 160 and P.P.J.G.W., Joseph Clarkson P.M. No. 865 and W.M. No. 1457 Bagshaw Lodge, Savage P.M. No. 174, J. R. Hemman I.P.M. No. 1000, John Weston No. 25 (Ireland), S. Lilley Bagshaw Lodge No. 1,457, E. E. Phillips P.M. No. 379 (Bath), J. A. Wardell P.M. No. 1,000, W.M. No. 60 P.P.G.D., H. Rowley P.M. No. 1,000 P.P.S.G.D., F. T. Dawson P.M. No. 211 P.P.G.O. During the evening W. Bro. J. R. Hemman, the I.P.M. of the Lodge, on retiring from the chair that day, was presented by the W.M., Brother A. Lucking, in the name of the Lodge, with a Past Master's jewel. Brother Hemman returned thanks in a suitable manner. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and the evening was enlivened with songs from Brothers Dawson, Phillips, Rowley, Savage, Berry, &c., &c.

Asaph Lodge, No. 1319.—This Lodge, consisting chiefly of members of the musical and theatrical professions, met at 2 o'clock, on Monday last, at Freemasons' Hall, thus enabling the duties of Freemasonry to be carried out, and the brethren to pursue their professional avocations. Bros. Frewin W.M., Jekyll S.W., W. A. Tinney J.W., W. Coote jun. Treasurer, E. S. Jones P.M. Secretary, E. Terry S.D., H. J. Tinney I.G., E. Swanborough D.C., and Past Masters J. Weaver I.P.M., Charles Coote and Chamberlin; Bros. H. Cox, Egerton, A. Hemming, Horton, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Mr. E. Coles was balloted for and approved. Bros. C. H. Stevenson, Smith and Henson, being in attendance, were passed to the degree of Fellow Crafts, and Bro. Hilton was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. The ceremonies were delivered correctly and impressively by the W.M., and all the officers were equally perfect. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren separated. Bros. J. Fitzgerald 79, H. P. Hall 541, J. H. Riley 188, and H. M. Levy P.M. 188 were present as visitors.

Gladsmuir Lodge, No. 1385, Barnet.—This Lodge held its installation meeting on the 29th ult., at the Red Lion, Barnet, Bro. W. Cutbush W.M. The Lodge having been opened, and the minutes of the last meeting, as well as of the emergency meeting on 16th ult., having been read and confirmed, the ceremony of installing Bro. Hayward Edwards W.M. elect was proceeded with, Bro. Lowthin P.M. officiating in a very effective manner. The W.M. then elected for his officers Bros. J. Cutbush S.W., Dr. Livingstone J.W., W. Cutbush Treasurer, Askew Secretary, Young S.D., Venables J.D., Patterson Organist, and Cranston I.G.; Bro. Goddard being re-elected Tyler. Bro. Cutbush, retiring W.M., and Bro. Humphrys, retiring Secretary, were then presented with the jewels of P.M. and Secretary respectively. The W.M. having received the congratulations of the visitors, the Lodge was closed. The brethren then adjourned to banquet, at which Bro. J. Lowthin P.M., in the unavoidable absence, through domestic affliction, of the W.M., most ably presided. The

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usual toasts were given, interspersed with songs and recitations, the Tyler's toast bringing a most agreeable evening to a close. In addition to a strong muster of the members, there were present among the visiters, Bro. Terry, Secretary Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, Bro. Binckes, Secretary Boys' School, Bros. W. Booth, C. A. Booth, Captain Wordsworth, Dr. Iles, Duffy, Marks, T. S. Carter, Cocks, Kirby, Hickman, Laxton, J. Reynolds, Fowler, &c., &c.

Stability Lodge, No. 217.—This Lodge held its usual meeting at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Tuesday, 2nd inst., at 5 p.m. Bro. Henry Marfleet W.M. presiding, supported by Past Masters Taylor, Sillifant, Hughes and James, with a goodly array of members. The Lodge having been opened, and the minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed; Bro. Marfleet vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Taylor P.M. and Secretary, who proceeded to re-instal Bro. Marfleet, who had been re-elected in December last, by unanimous vote of the Lodge. Bro. Taylor performed the ceremony in an admirable manner, and Bro. Marfleet then invested his officers for 1875 as follows:—Bro. Fuchs S.W., Theobald J.W., Nixon S.D., G. T. Seaborne J.D., R. G. Seaborn I.G., Hodden D.C., Sillifant P.M. Treasurer, Taylor P.M. Secretary, Gullick T. At the subsequent banquet Bro. Hughes (in the unavoidable absence of Bro. Drummond I.P.M.) responded for the Past Masters, and drew attention to the Lodge of Instruction, held under the sanction of this Lodge, at Masons' Tavern, Masons' Avenue, E.C., every Friday at 6, between August and May, and of which the annual festival would take place at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, on 30th April, at five o'clock. The lecture of the second degree to be worked in sections. Brother Fuchs S.W. returned thanks for the officers. Bro. Taylor P.M. and Secretary responded to the toast of "Secretary," and gave a very interesting, though brief account of his experience in Stability. Initiated in November 1854, he had the honour to be appointed to office I.G. 1856, J.D. 1857, J.W. 1858, and W.M. 1859. The Lodge then unfortunately passed through a period of trial and tribulation, and from internal dissensions was in imminent peril of dissolution; but he, in conjunction with Bro. Sillifant and the late lamented Bro. Brodey, by very strenuous exertions, managed to pull it through. In the prosecution of which he again, in 1861, served I.G., in 1863 S.D., and in 1868 W.M. Since which period, as well as during the year 1867, he had filled the office of Secretary. He had also inaugurated some changes from the old routine, by being the first member of the Lodge to serve a stewardship, and as retiring W.M. to instal his successor, a system which was now being well carried out. After again thanking the brethren, Bro. Taylor wished health, happiness and prosperity to Stability 217, and resumed his seat amid much applause. The Tyler's toast brought a very pleasant evening to a close.

Shrewsbury Lodge, Staffordshire.—The following are the Worshipful Master and officers of this Lodge, which was consecrated, on the 20th ult., by the Right Hon. the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot Prov. G.M. of Staffordshire. W.M. Bro. W. Jones, who chose James Taylor as his J.W., John Lloyd Griffiths J.W., Z. B. Smith Treasurer, Daniel Taylor Secretary, James Rowley S.D., Benjamin Love J.D., Tom Bayliss D.C., F. Piggott I.G., and T. Nickols 539 Tyler.

THE DRAMA.

Home at the Haymarket—The Bohemian Girl—The New Royalty.

Our American Cousin has been withdrawn from the Haymarket bills to make room for the late Mr. Robertson's adaptation of M. Emile Angier's powerful drama, *L'Aventurière*. *Home*, as the English play is entitled, is somewhat more than a mere translation of the original. The incidents are, indeed, the same, with a few unimportant variations, but the general tone and style of the comedy are changed. Mr. Robertson contrived, so to speak, to bring the story more within the range of commonplace experience and sympathies. Instead of the fifteenth, he chose the eighteenth century, and in place of Italy, as the scene of the comedy, he selected England, whilst the rhyming metre of the French version was made to give way to plain prose. But he did more than this; he managed to instil into the play a genial homely spirit entirely his own. *Home* is possibly a less picturesque production than *L'Aventurière*, but to an English audience, at least, it could scarcely fail to prove a more successful one. As originally produced at the Comédie Française, some quarter of a century ago, MM. Régnier, Geffroy, and Mdmes. Plessy and Favart sustained the leading characters, giving to them a destinctiveness and power befitting a comedy of the very highest order. The character of the adventuress herself, indeed, as interpreted by Mdme. Plessy, might be said to have exhibited at times much of the intensity of tragedy. For the English version however, the colours were softened, and the general current of the play took a milder form. Mr. Sothern played the part of Alfred Dorrison, which, in the original was sustained by Geffroy, whilst Mr. Compton and Miss Cavendish were allotted the parts of Captain Mountraffe, and Mrs. Pinckbeck, originally sustained by Régnier and Mdme. Plessy. This was the cast when *Home* was first produced, but in the absence of Mr. Compton and Miss Cavendish from the Haymarket Company, the last two characters are now being played by Mr. Rogers and Miss Ward. The revival has, notwithstanding, been most favourable received, and a visit to the theatre during the continuance of the present programme is certainly to be recommended. We may add that Miss Minnie Walton and Miss Linda Dietz, appear to charming effect in two of the subordinate characters, and that Mr. Lytton Sothern makes a satisfactory *début* in another.

It is not often that London playgoers have the opportunity offered them of being present at a performance of English Opera. Italian Opera and French Opera Bouffe they have no lack of, but English Opera is only to be witnessed on very rare occasions. One of these occasions is now being offered at the PHILHARMONIC THEATRE, where Balfe's *Bohemian Girl* was produced on Saturday last, with every appearance of complete success. It can scarcely be doubted that the melodies of Balfe, and other of our English composers, possess the necessary elements of popularity if they be but adequately rendered. Our theatrical managers have been searching in every direction for musical pieces, forgetful, apparently, of the fact that a mass of most valuable material lies ready to their hands. We cannot help thinking that if the same care were bestowed upon our English Operas as upon the *Operas Bouffes* imported from abroad, that they would prove at least equally successful. At the PHILHARMONIC, the part of Thaddeus is taken by Mr. Nordblom, that of Arline by Miss Munroe, whilst Devilshoof is played by Mr. Marler, Arnheim by Mr. Rosenthal, and the Gipsy Queen by Mdlle. Manetti. The piece is fairly put upon the stage, and very creditably executed.

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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. I.—No. 7. SATURDAY, 18th FEBRUARY 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

WE have great pleasure in announcing that at the Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, Major Creaton, P.G.D. in the Chair, it was resolved that 15 widows and 22 men be elected Annuitants at the Annual Meeting on 21st May next. This increase, of 12 widows and 10 males, it has been found possible to make in consequence of the liberality displayed by the Craft at the last Festival. The Committee very properly consider that where they have received so liberal an addition to the funds it is their duty, as far as possible, to increase the number of beneficiaries. This will now make up the number of annuitants to 100 widows, 130 men, and 16 widows each of whom receives a moiety of her late husband's annuity. We may add that there are 35 female and 33 male candidates to fill the vacancies announced above.

EGYPT CONSIDERED AS THE CRADLE OF MASONRY.

IT is rather remarkable that few or no attempts have been made by learned Masons to trace the history of speculative Masonry back to its original sources. It would seem that writers upon the mysteries of the Craft have hitherto restricted themselves to a narrow survey of the Order as it has existed from time immemorial in Europe, and it is only the more daring of these who have ventured to trace Masonic history to the time of the building of Solomon's Temple. Yet, as we pointed out in a recent article, the history of the Craft stretches back into a past so remote, that the civilisation of the Jews looks juvenile beside it. Practical Masonry is identified with the ancient history of Egypt; and its speculative doctrines, there is reason to believe, are derived from the remarkable people who founded a monarchy on the banks of the Nile 5,000 years ago. A diligent search of the tombs, temples and palaces of that land of wonder and science would undoubtedly afford us a rich mine of information in reference to those ancient mysteries in which the priesthood alone were initiated. That these mysteries were, as we have elsewhere stated, merely moral and scientific truths concealed, under the form of symbols, from the eyes of the vulgar, there can now be no reason to doubt. We learn that they were divided into two grand divisions, the greater and the lesser; in each of these there were ten grades, and all aspirants, with the exception of the king, had to ascend step by step, and were required to give proof that their lives were virtuous and truthful. The lesser mysteries are supposed to have embraced the pure sciences, and the student, while passing through them, was initiated into the secrets which were symbolised in the forms of the numerous gods of Egyptian theology. The greater mysteries, no doubt, contained the clue to the real meaning of the strange story of Osiris, and gradually lead the learner up to the pivot, upon which the whole rested, the grand idea of a supreme Architect of the Universe, in whose omnipotence the whole hierarchy of gods was absorbed. The legend of Osiris is one of the most remarkable in the whole range of human tradition, and it would seem that it played a most important part in the religious theories of the Egyptians. This great teacher is said to have been a god, who took upon himself the form of a man for the purpose of teaching the elements of science and civilisation to the human race. He was the son of Nepthe and Sep, and when he was born the people were startled by hearing a loud voice crying in the air, "The Lord of all the Earth is born." Later in history he was known to the Greeks as Bacchus, who is the centre around which the mysteries of "Dionysius" are clustered. The wife of Osiris was Isis, who, in the Egyptian theology, propounds the riddle, to which, so far as we know, no satisfactory answer has yet been given—"I am all that is, and my veil hath no man lifted." Some writers have asserted, with much show of reason, that Isis represented the Earth and its fertilising principles, while Osiris was the Sun, or the male principle of generation. He was called the good, or "the manifester of good," "the opener of truth," and was generally believed to be full of goodness and truth. He was known as the "President of the West," as the "Lord of Abydos." Others called him the "Lord of the World," the "Eternal Ruler," and "King of the Gods."

To this divine pair was born a son—"Horus;" and this triad of divinities had, by way of contrast, a persecutor in the form of Typhon, or the principle of Evil, who endeavoured, by every means in his power, to tempt Osiris to his destruction. The latter devoted many years of his life to the task of instructing and civilising the Egyptians. He found them rude, coarse and barbarous, but under his teaching they advanced in knowledge and in the arts of Masonry and general science. As king of lower Egypt he was able to enforce his benign teachings, and it is stated that the first buildings which were reared under his directions were granaries for storing the fruits of the earth. His beneficent career was, however, cut short by the machinations of Typhon, who entrapped him into a mummy case, the first which was seen in Egypt. Typhon had secretly obtained the measure of Osiris, and the case, which was elegantly ornamented, was set up in a banquetting room. When it had been sufficiently admired by all present, Typhon declared that he in the company whom it fitted should take it as a present. The guests all tried in succession, but it did not fit them. Osiris now entered it, and Typhon and his conspirators immediately rushed forward and closed the lid, upon which they poured melted lead, in order to close it up, having first put in some very strong nails. The case containing Osiris was then taken to one of the mouths of the Nile, and cast into the sea. The connection of this fabulous story with the observed facts of natural phenomena is too palpable to be overlooked. The elevation of Osiris into the great judge of the quick and the dead followed as a natural consequence of the judicial character of his reign on earth. In the tombs of the Egyptians he is represented adorned with the symbols of Eternity, receiving the soul of the departed, while attendant spirits weigh its good and evil deeds in the balances.*

Another deity of the Egyptians, Pthah, was regarded as the protector, if not the founder, of Memphis. In the British Museum there is a full-sized figure of this god; his body is enveloped in a close garment, open at the top, like a shirt; on his head is a skull-cap, and both hands hold a sceptre. He stands on a CUBIT, *the emblem of truth*, and its face is graduated. He was known as the "Lord of Truth," from whence alone all truth proceeded. He was a *great artificer*, and leader of all artisan intellects, and represented the mechanical side of the great Being, in whom alone the initiated believed. It is, however, difficult to trace any

* "Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting," Daniel v. 27.

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connection between the later or Greek mysteries and this god, while the connection between Osiris and Dionysius, or Bacchus, as he is commonly called, is quite clear. The Greek legend embraces all the chief points of that of Osiris, and the wanderings of the former are so like the career of the Egyptian deity, that no one conversant with the facts can doubt that Bacchus is simply Osiris in a Greek dress.

The mysteries of speculative Masonry are clearly traced to those of Dionysius, and holding, as we do, that these are but a comparatively modern rendering of the story of Osiris, we may justly claim the privilege of throwing back the origin of our Order to the commencement of Egyptian civilisation. The brotherhood may, indeed, fairly claim that the rites which are practised in the modern Lodge are faint traces of the mystic ceremonials which were familiar to priests and kings on the banks of the Nile 4,000 years ago.

OLD LONDON TAVERNS ASSOCIATED WITH MASONRY.

THE *New England Freemason* for December last contains a long account of some of the London Taverns associated with the Craft prior and subsequent to its revival in the early part of last century. Many of them are referred to by the late Dr. Oliver, in sundry of his Masonic works, and are mentioned likewise in Mr. Walter Thornbury's *Old and New London* (London: Cassell, Petter and Galpin). Indeed the writer in the *New England Freemason* acknowledges he is a debtor to Entick's "Constitutions," and has not improbably looked into these or similar publications, or at all events to the sources on which they are based, for the very interesting details which he has collected and presented in so readable a form.

The first to which reference is made is the old "Goose and Gridiron" in St. Paul's Churchyard. Here, we are told in *Old and New London*, during the building of St. Paul's, Sir Christopher Wren "was the zealous Master of the St. Paul's Freemasons' Lodge, one of the most ancient Lodges in London," now known as the Lodge of Antiquity, No. 2. It is added, "He presided regularly at its meetings for upwards of eighteen years. He presented the Lodge with three beautifully carved mahogany candlesticks, and the trowel and mallet which he used in laying the first stone of the great cathedral in 1675. In 1688 Wren was elected Grand Master of the Order, and he nominated his old fellow workers at St. Paul's, Cibber, the Sculptor, and Strong, the Master Mason, Grand Wardens. In Queen Anne's reign there were 129 Lodges; eighty-six in London, thirty-six in provincial cities, and seven abroad."

The origin of the sign is variously explained, but the following seems to be the most feasible account. The "Goose and Gridiron" had previously been the "Mitre," a celebrated Music house, and the arms of the Company of Musicians, "a swan with his wings expanded within a double tressure, counter, flory, argent," probably suspended at the door of the "Mitre," may have been thus vulgarly translated when the house was converted to another use.

It was at the "Appletree Tavern," Charles Street, Covent Garden, that in 1716 four of the leading London Lodges met for the purpose of choosing a Grand Master *pro tem*, those that joined the Appletree Lodge, being the lodges that met at the "Goose and Gridiron," at the "Crown," Parker's Lane, near Drury Lane, and at the "Rummer and Grapes Tavern," Channel Row, Westminster. Thus the revived Grand Lodge of England was organised at this tavern. It appears that the brethren who held their meetings at the "Goose and Gridiron" afterwards removed to the "Queen's Arms," St. Paul's Churchyard. It was at this latter tavern that Garrick cultivated the City men by attending a club here. It was here that Dr. Johnson started a city club, the members of which were not to be patriots. They are described by Boswell as "very sensible, well-behaved men." A sixpenny card club was also established at the "Queen's Arms," among the members being, we are told, Henry Baldwin, who, with Garrick, the elder Colman, and Bonnell Thornton, started the *St. James's Chronicle*, the most popular evening paper of the day.

In September 1721 Grand Lodge met at the "King's Arms"—perhaps in Bow-street. In March 1722 it assembled at the "Fountain Tavern," in the Strand. This tavern in 1685 was famous as the meeting-place of the ultra-loyal party, Sir Roger Lestrange taking a leading part in their consultations. In George II.'s reign it became a noted resort of the Whigs. In April 1723 Grand Lodge met at the "White Lion," Cornhill, and in September of the same year at the "Crown," Threadneedle-street. In the following year the meeting was held at the "Bell Tavern," King-street, Westminster, and in 1725 at the Devil Tavern—or, to give it its full title, "the Devil and St. Dunstan"—Temple Bar, which stood next door to Child's Bank. Here was formed the celebrated Apollo Club, presided over by "rare Ben Jonson." The bust of Apollo is still preserved at Child's Bank, as well as "The Welcome," which may have been written by Jonson himself. Over the clock in the kitchen was inscribed "*Si nocturna tibi noceat potatio vini, hoc in mane bibes iterum, et fuerit medicina*," which, in the phraseology of to-day is equivalent to "Take a hair of the dog that bit you." Swift dined at the Devil in 1710 with Addison and Dr. Garth. In 1746 the Royal Society held its annual dinner there, and in 1752 vocal and instrumental concerts were given. It was demolished in 1787.

In November 1728 Grand Lodge met at the "Queen's Head Tavern," in Great Queen Street, Holborn; in 1729 at the "Three Tuns," Swithin's Alley, near the Royal Exchange; in June 1731 at the "Half Moon," Cheapside. Grand Lodge met "in *due* form at the *Castle* in *Drury Lane*, on *Thursday*, *8th June* 1732, with the Earl of Inchiquin, and other former Grand *Officers*, and those of thirty-nine *Lodges*." In April 1739 a meeting was held at the "Crown Tavern," "behind *the Royal Exchange*." About sixteen sessions of Grand Lodge were held at the "Crown and Anchor" in the Strand, the first being on 24th January 1760. This was a favourite resort of Dr. Johnson. It was at this tavern that on 8th November 1813 was held an "Especial Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of England *according to the old constitution* (Ancients)." In the following month the union with the Grand Lodge of the "Moderns" was accomplished, and thus was formed "The United Grand Lodge of Ancient Freemasons of England."

It should be added that to afford the better accommodation required for the greater numbers of brethren which met together on the occasion of the annual "*Assembly and Feasts*," other places were chosen, such as Stationers' Hall, Mercers' Hall, Haberdashers' Hall, &c., &c. It was the procession of the Grand Master elect to Haberdashers' Hall on the occasion of the Festival held there in 1741, and a similar one in the following year, which gave rise to the caricature and broadside referred to in our article on "Masonic Curiosities" the week before last.

SOCIAL AND SANITARY REFORM.

THE Imperial Parliament of Great Britain has met, and her Majesty's most gracious speech has been read in both Houses. The measures announced to be brought forward by the Government are pre-eminently of a social and sanitary character. The speeches delivered on Monday night, by the Home Secretary and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, demonstrate that a great portion of the time of the Session will have to be devoted in considering the best means and the easiest methods to secure improvements in the dwelling houses of the poorer classes both in town and country. The death-rates in Liverpool, London, Manchester, Glasgow and other large towns and cities have been so great—produced from fever and other sad and melancholy disease—that it has become an imperative duty on the part of the executive government of the country to come forward and legislate for the people, and rescue them from those baneful and noxious influences that are decimating the whole population and spreading misery and desolation all around.

No nobler work could any government have commenced, and no true patriot or philanthropist can hesitate to give it that support and confidence that will enable it to check the devastating and desolating power of those fever alleys, polluted rivers, dark garrets and damp cellars that have sent thousands to an early grave.

The value of political institutions can only be truly estimated by the amount of security they give to health and life. To permit property, for its own selfish ends, to erect small cells, in which light and air are almost excluded, and then to name those houses, and call them the homes of the poor, is the climax of avarice, mockery and audacity.

To remove these pestilential dens of dirt and disease

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will, no doubt, be an arduous task; yet it must be done. Reason, right, justice and humanity must all assist with their power and experience to stem this death torrent, which is sweeping down the waves of time some of the best parts of the nation's wealth, namely the sons and daughters of labour. Who can wonder at the large amount of crime that is found committed in those cities and towns where all sanitary laws have been neglected? Is it possible for the children who have been trained under these debasing circumstances to become as a rule good citizens and virtuous members of the community? Man, from his birth to his grave is, to a vast extent, the creature of external and physical influences, over which he has small power. His constitution, his mental capabilities and his moral susceptibilities are implanted in his nature at his birth; therefore should not society use every means to instruct, improve and elevate the character of every child of humanity? To neglect to do so, is to abandon the high position which every member of the community should take in the social security of the country in which he lives. Education of all our faculties should be the first consideration, and to acquire in infancy the knowledge useful to ourselves and others in maturity. It is not limited to book learning—the learning of a useful art or trade; the attainment by practice of habits of industry and application; the mastering of a recreation or accomplishment favourable to health, innocent amusement or general convenience; all these are alike educational acquirements, valuable, as tending to augment individual and social happiness.

The great end of education is to place within the reach of infancy the results of experience, to increase individual power, to augment the good and lessen the evil incident to humanity. A person commencing his career without previous culture is shorn of his fair proportions. His term of existence is abridged, and he enters upon the race of life at every disadvantage. Hence arises the obligation imposed upon the parents, the ties of nature bind them to the maintenance of their offspring, but they are not less bound to provide them with the sources of knowledge. Without these they only give them existence, which may be an affliction, unaccompanied with the means to sustain it. They are placed on the stage of life, where their moral and physical powers are stunted or not developed, and lameness, blindness, or other infirmities would hardly subject them to greater privations in the enjoyments and competitions of the world.

Society as well as individuals suffer by the omission. Education is the best branch of social policy, inasmuch as it destroys the chief seeds of crime, want and ignorance. Dr. Paley has forcibly remarked, that to send an uneducated child into the world is little better than to turn a mad dog or a wild beast into the streets. Children so unfortunately situated have not equal chances of happiness; they are mostly miserable, and often vicious, from the want of training in habits of industry having not been cultivated. It is well known that our religion, morals, language, politics, and manners are mostly derived from the parental type. How careful then fathers and mothers ought to be to set their children good copies. They ought to know they are sowing the seed of good or evil to unknown generations. Their words, precepts, and actions; their examples as masters, citizens, and parents will, to a great extent, help to form the character of those by whom they are surrounded. As heads of families each is the founder and governor of one of the federalic states of which the body politic is composed, and it depends on their primary training and rule whether they shall be the authors of new sources of disorder and misery, or joy and benefit to the community. Government is directly interested in the happiness of the nation. Internal discontent, national poverty, and civil tumult endanger its security, and impair the resources by which it is supported.

Whatever tends to make the people moral, happy, and at mutual peace also strengthens the power of the executive government. It has recently been asserted, that the State, as such, has nothing to do with the moral sentiments and religious convictions of those whose best interests are in its charge; that their physical well-being should be its sole concernment; as if a living soul, a moral nature, an intellectual being were no part of the constitution of man. Such an opinion is not more opposed to the common sense of mankind than to the deductions of reason, and is at variance, too, with the convictions of the wisest and best men in every age. The moral and intellectual improvement of the people is not only one of the functions of the government, but it involves the very fundamental idea of it. It is with these views of the responsibility belonging to every statesman, no matter of what party or sect he may belong to, that her Majesty's ministers have presented to the nation those measures which they deem absolutely demanded to raise the character, improve the habits, and protect the health of the poor and needy. Here then is an opportunity for all to strive and work together to ensure the passing of such laws as will redeem many thousands of our fellow creatures from despondency, disease and premature death.

TEMPLAR MASONRY.

BY BRO. WALTER SPENCER, F.R.G.S., &c.

I REGARD the above heading as a misnomer, but use it as a significant corollary of my present theme. I proceed to make a few general remarks, before formulating the postulates which I am desirous to establish, concerning the "true historical aspect of the R. and M. Order of the Temple."

Readers of Mr. Leckie* will have noted the conclusion of that author, to the effect that a greater aggregate of testimony has been forthcoming in evidence of the truth of witchcraft than of any other fact in history, and they will remember that this statement is adduced to shew the worthlessness of human evidence. A greater than he has said, however, "there is nothing new under the sun," and at the present day, the study of animal magnetism, biology, mesmerism, clairvoyance and psychic force, is pointing with plausibility to the proof that accusations of witchcraft had, in a measure which we are not yet able to define, foundation in fact.

I have upon this and other grounds, the hardihood to differ from Mr. Leckie as to the aggregate value of human evidence; and maintain that every tradition or legend must in some way be connected with, if not based upon, some original truth. To bring that truth to light, and not to demolish both rubbish and truth together, should be the sacred task of the historian. I flatter myself the age we live in, though equally strong in adhesion to first principles, no longer sympathises with the iconoclast who could smite into fragments works of Art that had helped to develope a sense of beauty or purity in millions of souls. We would not shatter the idols of history, but reverently store them with a view to classification or study of their structure, and to utilisation of whatever they can teach.

Not on this principle has acted a recent school of Masonic historians. Bro. Findel, whose intelligent sketch of the modern ramifications of Masonry cannot be too highly esteemed, rejects many classes of evidence as to its antiquity and demolishes our idols, to show that we are but the outcome of an old German guild.

This may flatter his patriotism, but cannot fail to shock that of Englishmen, especially of those who believe in regular succession through an English channel from the Dionysiacs and their predecessors.

There have been writers who assumed that Freemasonry originated in a secret perpetuation of the mysteries of the Templars, after the dispersion of the latter. But when its symbolism is attentively considered in system as in moral application, we find the best of evidence—*internal* evidence—of its higher antiquity. Had it arisen subsequently to the Christian Era, its symbolism would have been strongly influenced, perhaps entirely moulded by leaders, Christian in one sense or another. Concurrent evidence from historical analogies is so strong, that I assert without fear of contradiction, its symbols would have been "the Lamb of God," "the Dove of Peace," &c., &c., as with the Templars and other orders or societies. That it has not altogether escaped the Christian element appears by the Saint Johns and the four crowned martyrs of our ancient Charges, which do fit well into the system, and which contravene our main principle, "Universality." What are our most striking symbols? *The Sun, the Moon, the Flaming Star!*—If these do not assert their own institution in an epoch when they were the current embodiments of great physical and moral truths, to what can we ascribe them? They are unwarranted by any Patristic adaptation!

That there was some connection between Freemasons and the Templars during and on the return from the Crusades,

* Rise of Rationalism.

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the titles of old Templar Churches show. Those at Bologna, Milan and elsewhere, still bear the name "de la Mason." Why did the Templars affect the circular plan of Architecture? Not in allusion to the Temple of Jerusalem! I recognise in the speech delivered by Chevalier Ramsay at Paris in 1740 a kernel of truth, which, though encased in error, is accompanied by some noble thoughts not unworthy of reproduction. It is treated by Bro. Findel with contempt as the "corner stone of the High Grades," the authority of which he rejects. Another *corner stone* was once despised and rejected, and I think it not impossible this may prove to be the fragment of a keystone, completing the Arch which unites modern to ancient Freemasonry. Ramsay said—

". . . . Political legislators have failed to found permanent institutions . . . . Their object being the elevation of one nation at the expense of others, they failed to attain universality. . . . They had not Philanthropy for their basis. The love of country, ill-understood, was often fatal to the love of Humanity. Men are not essentially made different from each other by varieties of language, of clothing, or of soil. The whole world is but a great Republic, of which each nation is a family, and each individual a child. To resuscitate and disseminate the common promptings of human nature, our society was established. We would unite enlightened men, not by love of the fine Arts alone, but yet more by sound principles of virtue. . . . .

. . . Our ancestors, the Crusaders, attracted from all parts of Christendom to the Holy Land, desired thus to bring subjects of all nations into one brotherhood . . .

. they projected an institution whose sole aim is the union of minds and hearts for purposes of improvement, and wished to found a nation of intellect . . . . . cemented by the ties of Virtue and Science.

The Religious Orders were established to make men perfect Christians, the Military Orders to inspire the love of glory, the Order of Freemasons to form men—amiable men, good citizens, inviolate in their promises, faithful adorers of the God of friendship, preferring virtue to recompense. . . . . .

. . . . The famous Festivals of Ceres and of Eleusis of which Horace speaks, as well as those of Isis in Egypt, of Minerva at Athens, of Urania among the Phœnicians, and of Diana in Scythia, had some connection with our solemnities. In those mysteries remained many traces of the ancient religion of the Patriarchs. . . . .

. . . . The name of Freemasons should not be taken in a literal sense, as though our founders had been simple artificers in marble and stone, or eccentric geniuses who strove to bring the Arts to perfection. They were not only clever architects who consecrated their talents to the construction of external Temples, but also religious princes and warriors, whose aim was to enlighten, develope and protect the living Temples of the Most High."

It will be remembered that there were other Crusaders besides the Templars and the Knights of St. John, and that the actual origin of even those orders is Oriental.

I will conclude by epitomising the rest of the Chevalier's theory, which, be it understood, I by no means uphold. He asserted that the more enlightened of the Crusaders entered into a mutual secret confederation, and invented signs and pass-words, based upon Masons' symbols in imitation of the children of Israel, who at the rebuilding of the Temple handled their tools in conjunction with implements of war; that princes on return from the Holy Land established branches of the Society; and thence he brings it to the first Lodge founded in Scotland at Kilwinning. Concerning the last, his words have not yet been verified. If he spoke without warrant, then he must be regarded as an enthusiast only, progenitor of a host of copyists. Many records of our operative brethren yet stare us in the face, out of the mists of the dark ages in Scotland; the cotemporary existence of the Order in England, Ramsay does not particularise, but I am confident that earlier traces evidencing the speculative application of the Masonic system, exist in this country, proofs of which will shortly be forthcoming.

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ROME VERSUS FREEMASONRY!

AN OLD MASONIC CONTROVERSY.

ABOUT the year 1780 general suspicions became rife in Germany, as to Jesuitical tendencies on the part of certain prominent members of the "High Degrees." A curious publication, entitled "*St. Nicaise, a collection of remarkable Masonic Documents*," excited much comment and was replied to by a prolific writer—the Baron Ecker und Eckhoffen, in a work called "*Anti-St. Nicaise*," which was supplemented by "*Achimedes*," as volume II., and by "*Scala Algebraica Œconomica*" as volume III.

Such questions were fiercely agitated in an influential journal published at Giessen, *Die neuesten Religious begebenheiten*," in "*Die Berlinische Monatschrift*," and elsewhere, by which the controversy was soon fanned to a flame. The principal object of attack was one Dr. Starck, a court preacher and Councillor, who in consequence brought an action for libel in the Berlin courts against Messieurs Gädicke, Biester, Nicolai and others, which was given in his favour. In addition to this, he launched a veritable thunderbolt in the shape of three ponderous volumes on "Crypto-Catholicism, Proselytising, Jesuitry, &c.," the weight of which ought to have crushed his enemies. Strange to say, though the balance of proof was in his favour, stannch Protestants would not let him alone. He was set upon amongst others, by a lady, Madame von der Recke, Countess of Medem (noted as an unmasker of Cagliostro) in a book called "*Something about Dr. Starck's Defence.*" This elicited from the learned Doctor a "*Something against the Something of Madame Von der Recke*," again replied to by her with a "*Something else, &c., &c.,*" and followed by a "*Continuous Something illustrating Dr. Starck's affairs*" by another learned Doctor. The host of writers, who now chimed in to the discussion pouring from the German press a stream of pamphlets during five or six years, is appalling to the bibliographer. Attack and defence, innuendo and reply, accusation, rebutter and rejoinder, were prolific on each side of the question. Charges of Illuminism, conspiracy and necromancy were dragged in to complicate the matter;* the attackers were put on their defence, Nicolai had difficulty in saving his reputation in two successive "Vindications:" but the one direct charge which we trace home to its mark throughout this literary tournament is that *of Jesuitry*. The battle wore itself out, and the figure of Starck honoured and victorious, reposed upon his laurels, amidst various printed summaries of the controversy which bore testimony to his good faith. Nevertheless, the student who has patience to study this "storm in a teacup," is constrained to avouch *there is a villainous taint of Jesuitry somewhere.*

Let us now hear the opinion of a worthy German Clergyman (Dr. Lindner) writing many years after the event (*Mac-Benac. Er lebet im Sohne. Berlin* 1818.) He says "Biester, Nicolai and Gädicke have been much misunderstood and pitied for their strennous endeavours to adduce proof of the admixture of Jesuitism even in Freemasonry; nevertheless the experience of our day will rehabilitate the reputation of those German Evangelical men. They were taunted with smelling Jesuitism in everything, but later experience has fully proved that it was so in this case. Witness the late Councillor *Baron von Starck, who was buried with cowl, tonsure, and all that could publicly distinguish him for a Jesuit.* I deny not I could have wished Biester to have survived to see this; but then he would also *have been doomed to witness* how this liars'-brood had so enmeshed *his own son*, that he threw himself into their arms and *not only cursed* the Protestant Church but *his own father* also. This happened at Vienna in 1812. For long had Rome not celebrated so fiendish a triumph!"

Nearly a century has elapsed, and notwithstanding development of social Science and the march of Progress, we are not prepared to say there is no lesson for us in what we have just read. We would return good for evil, but the Church of Rome is our enemy still. Freemasons cannot forget it. *Verbum sap.*

* See *Das graue Ungeheuer-Von Wekhrlin*, also *Archiv der Schwärmerey und Aufklärung.*

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MASONIC RECEPTION IN THE MAURITIUS OF LORD LINDSAY.

THE latest advices from the Mauritius contain a full account of the grand Masonic reception accorded by the brethren of that island to Bro. Right Honourable Lord Lindsay, Prov. G.M. of Aberdeenshire, W., on the occasion of his visit for the purpose of observing the recent Transit of Venus. Monday, the 28th December, was the day fixed, and on the evening of that day his Lordship was received in the Temple of the Lodge, La Triple Espérance, in the presence of a large concourse of brethren. Bro. C. E. Bewsher, W.M. of the British Lodge, presided, and on the dais were Bro. Pastor, Venerable of La Loge La Triple Espérance, Bro. Avice, Venerable of La Loge La Paix, Bro. Nagle, W.M. of Lodge Friendship, Bro. Col. O'Brien, P.M. and President of the Reception Committee, Bro. Lewison, P.M. and other high dignitaries of the Craft, who had been nominated as a Deputation of Honour to his Lordship. There were also present in the body of the Temple many brethren who had been received at the several degrees of 32°, 31° and 18°, besides many members of the sister Lodges of the Colony and of Lodges beyond the sea. Bro. Bewsher having been informed that Bro. Lord Lindsay was in waiting, directed the Deputation of Honour to go and meet his Lordship and escort him to the Temple, on entering which, amid the strains of a triumphal march specially composed for the occasion, his Lordship was cordially welcomed by the presiding Brother, who presented him with an ebony gavel, richly ornamented with chased silver, and placed him in the chair occupied by presiding Brothers and Rulers in the Craft. Bro. Col. O'Brien then delivered an address of welcome, in which the congratulations of the Craft on his visit to the Mauritius were heartily expressed, due honour being shown to his Lordship's exalted position, Masonic, scientific, and social. Bro. Pastor, Venerable of La Loge la Triple Espérance, the oldest on the island, and working under the Grand Orient of France, then expressed the congratulations of his Lodge in French, in very felicitous terms, referring to a previous visit in 1813 of Lord Moira, Prov. Grand Master of England, on which occasion the first stone of the Roman Catholic Cathedral was laid with due Masonic honours. Bro. Avice, of La Loge La Paix, was equally happy in his address, from which, as they may interest our readers, we extract the following particulars of Lord Moira's visit.

"In 1813 the Right Honourable Lord Moira, Most Worshipful Prov. Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England, landed in the Colony, on his way to India, and was received by Sir John Robert Farquhar who was one of the Wardens of the Lodge "La Paix." At that time preparations were being made to lay the foundation stone of the Roman Catholic Cathedral.

"On the 19th August, the Most Worshipful the Grand Master—with the assistance of Sir Robert Farquhar, the WW. MM. and Officers of "La Triple Espérance," "La Paix" and the other Lodges of the Colony, and in the presence of a most crowded assembly, laid the foundation stone with full Masonic honours.

"The mementoes which the Lodge "La Paix" possesses of Lord Moira's visit are a silver trowel, which I now exhibit to your Lordship, with which the Most Worshipful Grand Master laid the foundation stone, and a magnificent portrait of His Lordship in full Garter costume, which the Lodge caused to be painted by a very distinguished artist, and which portrait would have graced these rooms this evening were it not actually being repaired. The trowel bears this inscription.

"19th August 1813,
Presented by the Right Honourable Lord Moira and
His Excellency Sir Robert Townsend Farquhar, on the occasion of
the rebuilding of the Catholic Church of Port-Louis,
as a token of Esteem and Affection for the
Members of the
W. L.
LA PAIX."

Bros. Bewsher of the British, and Nagle W.M. of Lodge Friendship, added their welcome to the foregoing. Lord Lindsay then replied, in appropriate and elegant terms, to the several addresses, thanking him for the very courteous and fraternal reception accorded to him, and expressing his satisfaction at finding himself surrounded by so many brethren of high degrees. His lordship then retired, escorted by the Deputation, and the Lodge was closed in due form.

The brethren then sat down to a banquet served in the Salle des Pas Perdus, Bro. Bewsher presiding, supported, on his right hand, by the guest of the evening. The band of the 32nd Regiment played during the repast and afterwards. After grace had been said by Bro. the Rev. G. McIrvine, Chaplain to the British Lodge, Bro. Sir Chas. F. Shand, Chief Justice, proposed the first toast, "The Queen, the daughter of a Mason and the mother of Masons, and the Craft," which, it is needless to add, was received with the greatest enthusiasm. Bro. Nagle then proposed "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England, and the other members of the Royal Family," which was similarly received. The toast of the evening was proposed by Bro. Bewsher, who, in the course of his remarks, referred in happy terms to the object of his lorship's visit, and the partial success which had attended it. This, with the health of "Lady Lindsay and family," was greeted with prolonged applause, and briefly, but feelingly responded to by his lordship. Other toasts followed, and at length the entertainment was brought to a conclusion, the band playing the National Anthem.

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THE LATE LUKE EVANS.

FREEMASONS' PROCESSION AND FUNERAL SERVICE.

ON Sunday afternoon, 3rd January, a Freemasons' demonstration, as a tribute to the memory of Bro. Luke Evans, surgeon, of Wakefield-road, took place at Stalybridge. Notwithstanding the fact that the rain came down in torrents, about 100 of the brethren, representing the five Lodges in the borough, assembled at the Town Hall at half-past two o'clock, and having been marshalled by Bro. Chadwick, chief constable, they walked in procession to new St. George's Church. There was a full choral service, the choir having been augumented, and the organ was played by Bro. Joseph Travis. The anthem, "When the Son of man shall come in his glory," and the appropriate hymn—

Days and moments quickly flying,
Blend the living with the dead:
Soon will you and I be lying
Each within our narrow bed.

were sung before the sermon. Prayers were read by the Rev. H. J. Hutchinson, the incumbent; the lessons by Mr. Baker, and the sermon was preached by the Rev. T. Floyd, Vicar of Holy Trinity, Castle Hall. He took for his text the 8th chapter of Ecclesiastes, and part of the 8th verse: "There is no man that hath power over the spirit to retain the spirit; neither hath he power in the day of death: and there is no discharge in that war." Our Rev. Bro. treated his text most eloquently, and concluded his address as follows:—He did not feel that the pulpit was the place to pronounce a eulogy on the departed. However, brethren who admired and loved the deceased had come there to improve the occasion of his death in a way that they might be reminded they were liable to be summoned from this existence in the same way. He could not refrain from quoting the words of one eminent among the brotherhood of which he was a member. No doubt there were a great number of his companions present, and by the courtesy of one of the officers of the local community to which he was attached, he was put in possession of the expressions of an authorised member of the body. He referred to a letter received from the representative of the Grand Superintendent of the Province of Cheshire, and he would read a word or two expressive of what was a pithy and condensed representation of the character of him whose loss they deplored. In expressing his regret at being unable to attend the funeral, the writer said: "I have received with much sorrow the intimation of the death of Companion Evans, and hasten to assure you of my sympathy with the Companions of the North of Cheshire on the loss they, and indeed the whole of the province of Cheshire, have sustained. I will intimate the loss to the Provincial Grand Superintendent (Lord de Tabley), who is at present in Egypt, and I am sure that he will regret the death of our excellent Companion as much as we all do. I have the recollection of Companion Evans's chapter work vividly before me. It was perfect both in manner and matter. In my relations towards him I ever found him courteous and forbearing, and to him is due very much of the cordial co-operation of the North of Cheshire Chapter with the newly resuscitated Provincial Grand Chapter. If I was not engaged Masonically to-morrow, it would have given me a sad pleasure to have paid the last honour to his memory by attending his funeral. As it is, I must beg to be excused, but I hope that all those who have learned so much from him, both in Masonic work and in the greater lessons of private life and virtue, will be present on that occasion." They had come there, not only to mark their respect for the memory of the deceased, but to keep before them all through that they desired to improve the occasion for themselves. Let them remember that each one of them had to follow him. His death was so sudden and unexpected that it should warn them to stand continually prepared for their own last hour, in order that they might pass through the conflict in triumph.

SWISS MASONRY.

According to a French contemporary, fourteen Lodges took part in the foundation, on 23rd June 1844, of the Grand National Lodge of Switzerland, seated at Berne, and known of all brethren as the Grand Lodge Alpina. Among these Lodges may be enumerated Lodge Modestia cum Libertate, in the O. or province of Zurich, Espérance, Berne; Amitié et Constance, Basle; Bonne-Harmonie, Neufchatel, &c., &c. All still exist at the present time, though two of them—L'Amitié, of Geneva, and La Réunion, of Bex—are in a dormant condition. In 1851 the number of Lodges had increased to 22, and of active members there were reckoned to be about 1,100. Ten more Lodges have been constituted since 1852, but as four have ceased their labours, and two have been united into one, viz., La Fidélité and La Prudence, both of Geneva, the number of existing Lodges is reduced to 27, and of this number, as has already been pointed out, two are dormant. The number of active members is calculated at about 1,730. It should be added that the Book of Constitutions is similar to that of England, and that Grand Lodge Alpina recognises only the three degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry.

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REVIEWS.

All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, 67 Barbican, E.C.

—oOo—

Notes on the Scientific and Religious Mysteries of Antiquity; the Gnosis and Secret Schools of the Middle Ages; Modern Rosicrucianism, and the various Rites and Degrees of Free and Accepted Masonry. By John Yarker jun., P.M., P.M.R.M., P.Z., P.G.C., and M.W.S. K.T. and R.C., K.T.P., &c., &c. London: John Hogg, 15A Paternoster Row, and Richard Spencer.

We have read this volume with the utmost care, and with all the patience we could command, yet the result, we fear is, in a certain sense, unsatisfactory. We confess, with shame be it said, that we are but little nearer a comprehension of the author's object or meaning than we were at the outset, when we had not yet scanned a single line of his most elaborate essay. We regret this exceedingly. Whether it proceeds from a natural incapacity on our part to receive enlightenment, or whether the author's power of explaining himself is less considerable than so vast a subject demands, it would ill become us to say. We are for the moment lost in the profoundest depths of Mysticism and Gnosticism and Rosicrucianism, and whether it be possible for us to recover ourselves is, thus far at least, a mystery. The old familiar "Facilis descensus Averni, &c.," naturally occurs to us in such a dilemma. At all events we are in the position, somewhat irreverently described by one or more persons of unknown merit, of a newly wed couple at the end of the marriage service. We are "in amazement" at the course of study we have just gone through.

In justice to the author we should state that, in his preface, he warns his readers against accepting this as a complete work upon the subject, it is but "the *avant garde* to pioneer the way for a larger corps of facts." This, so far as the small volume before us is concerned, is eminently satisfactory. Had it been meant to serve as a complete and exhaustive treatment of "Speculative Freemasonry," we imagine that speculative Masonry would have fared somewhat ill as regards any clear exposition of its mysteries. Many of our readers no doubt are familar with the appearance, if not with the contents, of the old Delphin editions of the Classics. Take our old friend Horace or Virgil, as a case in point. The text is so surrounded on all sides by a Latin paraphrase and annotations—all in Latin—that it is almost a matter of impossibility to read a single verse of the author. A line or two of the original in a page filled otherwise with "Interpretationes," "Annotationes," "Emendationes," "Variæ lectiones," and the like. The mere aspect of Horace thus besmothered was enough to frighten our young wits away. As to getting at his meaning, or appreciating his beauties, that was entirely out of the power of the youthful student. And thus it is, we fear, with this work on Speculative Masonry. Till we come to chapter IV., we find here and there, as it were, a line or two of text, with a mass of notes, extracts from authors, Masonic and unmasonic, eminent or otherwise, by way of illustration. Verily—to repeat ourselves—we are lost in utter amazement at this mode of unravelling a mystery.

Let us extract a specimen of the author's treatment. The passage (see pages 52 and 53) is somewhat long, but it will explain the better the remarks we have made.

"Amongst the Physicians, Cabalists and Alchemical adepts, whose order and doctrines were brought from Egypt, chiefly by learned Jews, as early as the eighth century, may be mentioned Roger Bacon (born 1214, died 1294), Albertus Magnus (born 1234, died 1314), Nicholas Flamel, Basil Valentine (born 1414), Theophrastus Paracelsus Bombast Von Hohenheim (born 1493, died 1541), "Monarch of Philosophers, Prince of Spagyrists, Chief of Astronomers, Paradoxical Physician, and Grand Master of Mechanical Secrets.' This association of learned men, afterwards called Fire-Philosophers, or Rosicrucians, as will be shown, had much in common with Speculative Masonry, and was itself both speculative and operative, or concealed Theosophy under Alchemical jargon. The actual key to their art and operative symbolism seems to lie in the Emerald Tablet of Hermes Trismegistus, as a sort of universal key to all the secrets of nature.

"They seem to have taught that all matter consists of three principles—*Body* (sulphur or mere earth), *Soul* (fire or mercury), Spirit (the essential salt). *The first matter of all metals and substances is one fixed something*, altered only by the diversities of place, warmth and sulphurs. This something is styled mercury, or the green lion, the serpent, and is the seed. Seminal impressions being lodged in the mechanism of the earth, the fire acts thereon, and by the watery fermentations brings everything forth, whence originally proceeded the animal, vegetable, and mineral kingdoms; even man himself, agreeably to the account of Moses. The alchemical operative art seems to have consisted in the separation of this *Mercury*—soul or water of life—from the spirit, salt, or sperm contained in the ore, and the purification and alteration of the earthly part. Hence the first was the Woman, Wife, Queen or Moon (Lunar), the second the Man, Husband, King, Sun (Sol). This conjunction was indicated by the point within a circle, as a fixed centre from which everything radiates. From these principles sprang fire, air, earth, water. By the proportionate addition of metal in the heated alembic, at the proper degree of process, arose a nobler offspring, styled the *Quintessence*, or a *fifth element*, also named *Salamander*, *Phœnix* and *Son of the Sun*, &c., &c."

This passage occurs in the second chapter on "Gnosticism in the Middle Ages," and if it conveys a clear idea of that strange mysterious creed, all we have to say is, we deeply sympathise with the Gnostics. One sentence—or clause of a sentence—in the foregoing extract we certainly admire, and what is more to the purpose, if we are not mistaken we seem to understand it—with a proviso, however. We mean "*The first matter of all metals and substances is one fixed something.*" This is certainly definite as far as it goes, and had the passage ended there, we should have fully grasped its signification. But we are told, in the very next sentence, "This something is styled Mercury, or the green lion, the serpent, and is the seed," the consequence being that our ideas are forthwith unsettled, or rather utterly befogged. We thought we had grasped a "fixed something" and it turns out to be "Mercury, or the green lion, the serpent, and is the seed." If we are to judge from the mass of notes—of which the above extract is only a part of one—which the author has collected for the purpose of illustrating the doctrine of the Gnostics; we should say the Gnostics had no defined idea of anything. They must have gone out of their way to mystify everything—or why called this "something" "Mercury, or the green lion, the serpent." Well may the author caution us against receiving the notes as a complete work.

Chapter III. deals with "Modern Rosicrucianism" much in the same fashion, the result of our studies being somewhat similar. One brief passage, however, caused us more than the usual amount of wonder. It is this: "Our French brethren state that one of the Templar-Kadosh degrees was invented about this time by Oliver Cromwell, and it is believed that the Protector, desiring to be known as the founder of Christ's kingdom upon earth, constituted himself the head of one of the sects which was acting throughout all Europe in the veiled language." That the idiot, "Praise God Barebones," might have committed himself by some rash act of folly is credible. That sensible, practical old Noll, who trusted in God and kept his powder dry, should have done so, certainly passeth all understanding. Oliver could be mysterious enough, no doubt, for a purpose; but there was nothing mysterious about his general conduct, his acts of government, and the like.

Chapter IV. however, makes ample amends for the mysticism of the earlier chapters. Herein the author deals clearly and consecutively with "Free and Accepted Masonry." This portion of his work is certainly to be commended, and we hope our readers will find or make an opportunity for perusing it. Those, especially, who are not "up" in the general history of the Craft and its various branches and offshoots, will find herein plenty of good material, collated from different sources, and strung together so as to form a very agreeable narrative.

We wish we could have extended our approval to the whole volume, for the author's researches must have been very laborious. He is not, perhaps, to blame that the earlier chapters are dull and heavy. His business was to collect information, and he has done so. He must not, then, be deemed responsible if the matter thus accumulated is somewhat less attractive than a work by Sir W. Scott, W.M. Thackeray, or Charles Dickens.

Text Book of the Geography of Palestine, by John Bowes, Head Master of the Bluecoat Hospital, Warrington. Manchester: John Heywood, 141 and 143 Deansgate; and London: Simpkin, Marshall and Co.

This will be found of great service to the student. The information is very carefully selected and arranged, and the author appears to have consulted all the most trustworthy authorities for his facts. There is also a neatly-drawn map of the Holy Land in the time of our Saviour.

Notes on the Colonial Empire of Great Britain, by John Bowes. Third Editon, revised and corrected. London: John Kempster and Co., 9 and 10 St. Bride's Avenue, Fleet Street.

The student who is anxious to make himself acquainted with the leading facts connected with the British Empire will find this text-book of great use to him. Our colonies and dependencies are formed into various groups, according to the division of the world to which they belong geographically, and in each case the extent, population, resources, imports, and expenditure, and mode of acquisition are stated.

Christian Knowledge for Sunday and Day Schools, by John Bowes. London: Educational Trading Company Limited, 9 and 10 St. Bride's Avenue, Fleet Street.

A very simple, and, therefore, very useful explanation of the Church Catechism, with illustrations of its scope and meaning, taken from the Bible, Prayer Book, Early Christian Writers, and other sources.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All Letters and communications must be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, *67 Barbican, London, E.C.*

Q.—The idea has already been suggested to us, and a series of articles will shortly be commenced.

S. W.—Many thanks for your kind interest in our labours.

High Degrees.—You are thinking of the Rite of Memphis, introduced into New York in 1856.

W. L. D.—"Ahiman Rezon," according to Mackey's *Lexicon of Freemasonry* (London: Charles Griffin and Co., Stationers Hall Court, Edition 1867), "is the name of the book of Constitutions," which was used by the Ancient Division of Freemasons, which separated in 1739 from the Grand Lodge of England . . . . The title is derived from three Hebrew words: *ahim*, brothers, *nasah*, to choose or appoint, and *rabzon*, the will or law, so that it literally signifies "the law of chosen brothers." The late Dr. Oliver, in his *Revelations of a Square* (London: R. Spencer, Edition 1855), says, "Ahiman Rezon, Help to a Brother, &c., &c., was also published for the use of the seceders, and was adopted by the schismatical Grand Lodge as its Book of Constitutions."

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CORRESPONDENCE.

All Letters must bear the name and address of the Writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.

—o:—

THE LIFEBOAT ENDOWMENT.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The letter of Bro. Solomon Davis, explaining his reasons for not proceeding with the proposed Endowment Fund (the cause we must deeply regret), makes no reference to the balance in his possession, which was intended as its nucleus. I hoped to see, in your last issue, a confirmation or denial of the assertion of "W. M." respecting the sum of £22. Any one who is acquainted with Bro. Davis will give him credit for great honesty of purpose, and gratitude is eminently due to him for his former exertions. Although not old, the chronic malady under which he suffers so acutely may in future prevent him fulfilling the duties appertaining to the project, hence he would the better carry out what he has so much at heart by relinquishing an amount of labour the necessity of the case requires, and which, in all probability, would prove detrimental to his health. Let him, therefore, relieve himself from so weighty a responsibility, by throwing his balance into your fund, and, if desired, I am sure he would acquiesce in the proposition.

I suggest that a subscription list be opened at once, to be called "THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE LIFEBOAT ENDOWMENT FUND," and the donations thereto paid to any branch of the London and County Bank, to the credit of the fund at the Aldersgate Street Branch, where you could easily ascertain particulars of contributions, and publish a list of the same each week, or as necessity demanded. This means would, at least, save considerable time and expense; and to further the object it would be advisable to secure the co-operation of some of our Grand Lodge officers, whose influence could not fail to be successful to the movement. It is necessary to state that a boat presented to the Lifeboat Institution, *without endowment*, is a burthen upon its funds. It therefore behoves the craft to take immediate action to relieve the *institution* of a task their benevolence has imposed.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally, LEIS BONAC.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have read, with the most lively interest, the articles and letters which have appeared in your valuable paper on the subject of the Freemasons' Lifeboat Endowment Fund. I have been much struck with the fact, so clearly set forth by you, that our boat entails a heavy annual charge upon the noble Association in whose custody it is. I think the Freemasons, as a body, cannot be aware of this, or they would long since have made an effort to raise such a sum as would make the boat free of the charitable donations of the public. I venture to suggest to my brethren that this is a matter which should be brought before the Lodges. I shall make it my business to bring it before my own Lodge, the members of which will, I doubt not, respond heartily to an appeal made in the cause of suffering humanity. At the proper time I shall be prepared with my contribution towards the fund.

I am, Sir, yours fraternally,

Great St. Helens, E.C., 3rd February. G. J.

MASONIC CURIOSITIES.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR,—I read your article on the above subject with much interest, and should be glad to find you follow it up in future numbers. I feel sure that much amusing matter is to be found in old publications, magazines, newspapers, broadsides, &c., &c., on the subject of Freemasonry. A hearty laugh is always pleasant; especially when people take to ridiculing what they don't understand. Then it is the initiated chuckle with delight over the glaring absurdities of their would-be tormentors.

A day or two since I was reading Oliver's *Revelations of a Square*, when the following quotation (in a foot note, p. 30) from Dean Swift struck me as likely to amuse your readers.

"As to the secret words and signals used among Masons, it is to be observed that, in the Hebrew alphabet, there are four pair of letters, of which each pair are so alike that, at the first view, they seem to be the same. Beth and Caph, Gimel and Nun, Cheth and Thau, Daleth and Resch* and on these depend all their signals and gripes. Cheth and Thau are shaped like two standing gallowses of two legs each; when two Masons accost each other, one cries Cheth, the other answers Thau, signifying that they would sooner be hanged on the gallows than divulge the secret. Then, again, Beth and Caph are each like a gallows lying on one of the side posts, and when used as above, imply this pious prayer: 'May all who reveal the secret hang upon the gallows till it fall down.' This is their Master Secret, generally called the Great Word. Daleth and Resch are like two half gallowses, or a gallows cut in two at the cross stick at the top, by which, when pronounced, they intimate to each other that they would rather be half-hanged than name either word or signal before any other but a Brother so as to be understood. When one says Gimel, the other says Nun, then the first again, joining both letters together, repeats three times Gimel Nun, Gimel Nun, Gimel Nun; by which they mean that they are united as one in interests, secrecy, and affection."

Among the periodicals which both abused and amused the Craft in the early part of last century were "THE POST BOY" and "THE FLYING POST." "In the former," says Dr. Oliver, in his same work (see note pp. 28, 29), it is asserted that "the Freemasons put out a sham discovery to invalidate their revelations; but the only genuine discovery is in 'THE POST BOY' and the 'THE FLYING POST.'" The Sword bearer's song, he tells us, "being read with the above explanation in view will be seen in a new and interesting light." I subjoin the last verse, which Dr. Oliver quotes in his note.

Then let us laugh, since we've imposed
On those who make a potber,
And cry, "The Secret is disclosed
By some false-hearted brother,"
The mighty secret's gain'd, they boast,
From "POST BOY" and from "FLYING POST."

I trust others will follow my example, and contribute of their reading anything that strikes them as specially interesting to the Craft.

Q. C.

* The Hebrew characters are given in the work I quote from, but I have omitted to give them here. They somewhat answer Swift's description.

MASONIC MINSTRELSY.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR,—Your strictures on Masonic Minstrelsy in the last issue of THE CHRONICLE are very just, and I, in common with the writer, think it is time that the reproach of fathering the doggrel to which he refers should be at once removed from the Order. Strangers who may come across a stray copy of these "lyrics" must imagine that we Masons are a set of silly dogs, too much muddled with the wine of our banquets to care for poetic excellence, and perhaps too ignorant to appreciate literary excellence of any sort. We have in our ranks a large array of men of letters, and it is strange that something is not done to improve Masonic "poetry." Good songs, expressing the appropriate sentiments of the Order, set to good music, would be sure to sell. But it would almost seem that neither speculative nor practical Masonry has power to inspire the pens of our writers of verse. Possibly the dearth of good songs arises in some degree from the persistency with which we have clung to these shreds and tatters of Grub-street. A man who might feel inclined to pen a verse or two for the brotherhood no doubt remembers the gusto with which these things are sung, and turns from the work with positive disgust. Yet, Sir, there is ample scope for the lyric poet in the grand history and present objects of the Order. The pathetic, the humorous, and the tragic abound in the archives of Masonry. The grave, the gay, the lively, and the severe, might all in turn form the subject for a popular lyric. The social aspect of Masonry supplies the true basis of song, and here the poet might revel to his heart's content. "Brotherly Love," "Relief," and "Truth," might each form the subject of a noble poem, worthy of being set to undying harmony. Of the humorous, Burns gave us a taste in his celebrated "Address to the Deil," but the lines are only incidental, and I cannot but regret that he, a Mason, did not write a few verses for the benefit of the Craft. The lines in question are, as you doubtless know, as follows:—

"When Mason's mystic word an' grip,
In storms an' tempests raise you up,
Some cock or cat your rage maun stop,
Or, strange to tell!
The youngest brother ye wad whip
Aff straught to hell."

The allusion here to the old belief, that when the devil was called up by incantation, some sacrifice must necessarily be prepared to avert his wrath from the wizard, is exceedingly good.

Unhappily this fragment and "The Farewell to the brethren of St. James's Lodge, Tarbolton," to which you refer in your article, comprise all the contributions of this gifted Child of Genius to the literature of the Craft. Trusting that an abler pen than mine will further ventilate this subject,

I remain, Sir,

Yours fraternally, MEMPHIS.

THE ARCHÆOLOGY OF THE CRAFT.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR,—Your article on the "Archæology of the Craft" startled me very much. I am an old Mason, and have been accustomed to regard the Temple at Jerusalem as the greatest monument of the age in which it was built. I confess I never thought of looking into the Bible for its dimensions, but since reading your article I have done so, and am constrained to confess that your view is the correct one. Here, then, Sir, goes another of my early dreams! Indeed, I have been getting rid of so-called prejudices for the last twenty years, and if I go on at my present rate of progress I shall find myself like Socrates, conscious only of my own ignorance. History has been re-written since I was a boy. Geology, Archæology and Philology have become sciences of the first rank, and some of my old fogy friends are really frightened at the steady march of these "ologies" over the old debatable ground, and the continual controversy which rings in our ears. Of one thing I am assured, and that is, that Masonry is based upon the eternal truths of Nature, and must last for ever.

I am, Sir, yours fraternally,

Chelsea, 5th February. B. D.

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THE THEATRES, &c.

COVENT GARDEN.—At 7.0, THE VIVANDIERE. At 7.45, THE BABES IN THE WOOD.

DRURY LANE.—At 7.0, REBECCA. At 7.30, ALADDIN.

HAYMARKET.—A FAIR ENCOUNTER, HOME and THE SERIOUS FAMILY.

ADELPHI.—At 7.0, UNCLE TOM'S CABIN, LIEUT.-COLE'S ENTERTAINMENT and THE CHILDREN IN THE WOOD.

PRINCESS'S.—At 7.0, THE LANCASHIRE LASS and BEAUTY AND THE BEAST.

LYCEUM.—At 6.30, FISH OUT OF WATER. At 7.45, HAMLET.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.0, TWENTY MINUTES WITH A TIGER. AT 7.30, THE TWO ORPHANS.

STRAND.—At 7.0, INTRIGUE. At 7.30, OLD SAILORS. At 9.15, LOO AND THE PARTY WHO TOOK MISS.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 7.45, SWEETHEARTS and SOCIETY.

GAIETY.—AT 7.0, BENGAL TIGER. At 8.15, MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR. On Monday, 15th, FAST COACH AND MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM.

GLOBE.—LADY AUDLEY'S SECRET and BLUE BEARD.

ROYALTY.—At 8, AWAKING. At 9, LA PERICHOLE.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.0, A WHIRLIGIG. At 7.45, OUR BOYS. At 10, ROMULUS AND REMUS.

CHARING CROSS.—At 7.30, MR. JOFFIN'S LATCH KEY. At 8.15, THE NEW MAGDALEN.

OPERA COMIQUE.—At 7.30, HOUSEHOLD FAIRY. At 8.15, LADY OF LYONS. On Monday, 15th, SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER.

COURT.—At 7.30, DREADFULLY ALARMING. At 8, MAGGIE'S SITUATION. At 9, BRIGHTON.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.0, THE TWO BONNYCASTLES. At 7.45, WHITTINGTON.

CRITERION.—LES PRES SAINT GERVAIS, &c.

AMPHITHEATRE, HOLBORN.—At 7.0, THE IRISH EMIGRANT. At 8.15, BLUE BEARD. On Monday, 15th, BEAUMONT and FLETCHER'S MAID'S TRAGEDY.

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THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE

67 BARBICAN, E.C.

OUR OLLA PODRIDA.

WE are not meteorological, yet have we a profound respect for the clerk of the weather. We are equally alive to our own shortcomings, and the facility with which he adapts himself to the variations of our temperament. If we bluster, he returns blow on blow; if we evince unusual warmth, he waxes hot accordingly; if we give him the cold shoulder, he regards us with consummate coolness, and a keen dose of Nor'-Easter is the retaliation he administers. We must have been womanish of late in our fickle changes—*varium et mutabile*; or how otherwise account for wind, rain, snow and sunshine, in the brief space of one week, or thereabouts? Meantime, we are hopeful of a better state of things.

The political campaign has opened most auspiciously. Every one must regret that Her Majesty was not present in person when Parliament re-assembled for the performance of its duties, and still more that the cause of her absence was the illness of her youngest son. But, apart from the natural disappointment thus caused, the commencement of our legislative year began most favourably. Her Majesty's speech was plain, but the matter it contained prepares us for a busy Session, in which the ornamental, or, to speak more appropriately, the sensational, will yield the place of honour to the useful and the practical. Already, indeed, the Peers, at the instance of the Lord Chancellor, have commenced dealing with two important measures—a Bill to amend the Supreme Court of Judicature Act, 1873, and the Transfer of Land Bill. In the House of Commons notices have been given that on certain days certain important measures will be proposed, but as yet the House can hardly be said to have fairly settled down to its work. Mr. C. Lewis, the honourable member for Londonderry, proposed a resolution, to the effect that the issue of a new writ for the borough of Stroud should be suspended, alleging, as his reason for the motion, a very extensive prevalence of corrupt practices at the recent elections. The majority of the House, however, took a more lenient view of the case, and rejected the motion by 225 to 44. Thus Stroud will shortly enjoy another election, possibly another petition, and not improbably another vacancy in its representation. What then? The whole case, perhaps, re-argued *de novo*. But on Thursday there was a nearer approach to labour. The Chancellor of the Exchequer moved for leave to introduce two Public Loan Acts Bills, one consolidating and the other amending. These seem to be very necessary, to judge from one remark in the Right Hon. Gentleman's speech, that the amount of local indebtedness is already £72,000,000, and is increasing annually by £3,000,000, and that this is going on to all intents and purposes without any control whatever by any one. Afterwards Mr. Sclater-Booth moved to introduce a Bill to consolidate and amend the acts relating to Public Health. Leave, of course, was given in each case, and the Bills were read a first time. Lord Elcho also introduced a Bill for creating a county and municipality of London. It only remains to add that the Marquis of Hartington's assumption of the Liberal leadership was marked by a very thoughtful and sensible speech on the opening night of the Session. If all his party display the same spirit we may anticipate much good will result from the new arrangement.

Outside the walls of St. Stephen's there has been little of an exciting character. The nearest approach to anything of this kind has been a solemn deputation to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, for the purpose of urging him to abolish the Income Tax. It is, perhaps, not a little remarkable—and we believe historians have discussed the matter with some degree of warmth—that from the earliest days down to this present year of grace any sort or kind of tax has excited infinite clamour on the part of the tax payers. Any tax is a burden to those who pay it. Of course the man who has no income will never think of objecting to an Income Tax. A teetotaller is careless

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about Excise and Customs' duties. Lacklands are mightily indifferent to taxes on real property. Yet, in spite of all this strange indifference, the question naturally crops up, "How shall the Queen's Government be carried on without money?" We must pay interest on our National Debt, or be nationally bankrupt. There go some twenty-six millions. We must have an army, that costs fifteen; and a navy, that costs ten millions; and a Civil Service and a Post Office, they need twenty millions. Somehow we require seventy millions in order to keep our house in order. Taxes, therefore, if unpleasant to bear, are inevitable. And, after all, the Income Tax is not heavy; it yields well, and is easily collected, even if the process of levying and collecting it is sometimes a little inquisitorial. Twopence in the pound is not a heavy charge, even on moderate incomes. If we dispense with this we must find for it a substitute. Will another tax give greater satisfaction?

The Oxford and Cambridge crews are now in full training for the eventful struggle on the 20th prox. Old 'Varsity oars have been up at their respective *almæ matres*; Messrs. Woodgate, Willan and Darbishire at Oxford, Messrs. Chambers and Goldie at Cambridge. Thus the work of "coaching" has been prospering, and the accounts we read of the work done hold out a hope of an exciting race. May we be there to witness it.

One or two of the proposed Cabmen's shelters have already been opened. The scheme is likely to be a great success. The men take kindly to the tea and coffee, and enjoy themselves amazingly under cover. The next thing to be done is to persuade the cab owners to give us better vehicles—vehicles that are not stuffy, ramshackle and cramped for room.

The rivalry of railway companies is not generally interesting, except when there is a chance of the public profiting by it. For this reason we are glad the decision of the Railway Commissioners is to all intents and purposes in favour of the Midland. The revised railway fares will enable us to travel more cheaply; and, after all, cheap and expeditious travelling must be looked upon as the *raison d'être* of railways.

From abroad we hear little that is worth mentioning. Russia, it seems, is somewhat angry with us, that we will take no further part in the Brussels Congress. It is very well for the owners of the big battalions to seek to amend the laws of war to their own benefit and the detriment of unhappy neutrals and belligerents, but the owner of the most powerful navy in the world is fairly entitled to differ with them. One thing may comfort us. We have the clear head and firm hand of a Derby to guide our Foreign Office. He will not hurry us into a squabble, or do aught to wound our self-respect.

There has been fighting in Spain, and the young king has undergone his baptism of fire. The accounts of what has happened are somewhat conflicting. Carlist telegrams speak of one, if not two victories on the 3rd instant. Madrid news tell a different tale. One thing seems tolerably clear. The Alphonsist army has relieved Pamplona, and some parts of the Carlist lines have been forced. But there is a pause in the progress of events. Is this ominous of good or evil to the Alphonsist cause? We will answer this question when the issue is clear, not before. From France we hear that the Assembly has accepted, by 322 to 310, the amendment of M. Pascal Duprat, providing that the Senate shall be elected by universal suffrage. The vote appears to have taken every one by surprise, and is said to have been arrived at through the support of 30 Bonapartists and the abstention of 50 members of the Extreme Right. The vote, however, is not a final one. A more attractive item of news is the reception, by the Académie Française, of M. Alexandre Dumas, whose speech was a great success. From the United States we hear that the Republicans have been defeated in the House of Representatives. A caucus of the Republican party was held on the 26th ult., when it was determined to introduce next day the House Civil Rights Bill, whose object is to make illegal the exclusion of negroes from schools, colleges, churches, hotels, public cars, railway carriages, &c. Accordingly General Butler, on the 27th, moved that the House reconsider its resolution of last Session, referring it to the Judiciary Committee. Had this been carried, the Bill would have been again before the House, and might have been adopted. However, Mr. Randall, a leading Democrat, moved that General Butler's motion be not taken into consideration, and after a Session extending over nearly "46½ hours," a motion for adjournment was carried.

The regular meeting of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and the Widows of Freemasons met on the 10th instant, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Bro. Major Creaton, P.G.D., in the chair. Bro. Jas. Terry, Secretary, read the minutes, which were confirmed. He then announced that the sum collected at the late Festival amounted to £6,630 13s 6d. 4 lists had come in since, with the sum of £125; 7 lists had yet to be received, and he hoped to be able to announce on a future occasion that the amount would reach £6,800. Bro. Griffiths Smith then proposed that a vote of thanks be accorded to the R.W. The Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot for his able presiding at the late Festival. Bro. J. G. Stevens proposed a vote of thanks to the Stewards, who had so efficiently performed their duties. Bro. Cutbush, of Barnet, presented a railway-truck load of shrubs to the Institute, and a vote of thanks was accorded to him for his kind gift. Br. R. W. Stewart proposed that the Stewards who acted at the late Festival be invited to be present at the Institution on a day to be fixed at a future date. The meeting was then adjourned to the following month. There were present Bros. C. A. Cottebrune, T. W. White, W. R. Stewart, C. Hogan, Hilton, L. Stean, R. H. Giraud, Griffiths Smith, W. Stephens, J. Newton, J. Bellerby, Hyde Pullen, Jabez Hogg and H. M. Levy.

Our brethren in the provinces are naturally anxious to know something definite in reference to the Installation of the Prince of Wales in the office of Grand Master. The ceremonial is, we believe, fixed for April next, but more than this we do not know at present. We hope, however, to furnish our readers with full information sufficiently early to enable those who reside in the country, and are entitled to be present, to make the necessary preparations for a journey to town.

The First Report of the Commission of Inquiry into the Civil Service has just made its appearance. Judged by the nature of the evidence furnished, it must fail to give satisfaction. The method of making first appointments, of regulating promotion in it, and grading it as a whole, with the object of obviating the inconveniences which arise from a difference of pay in it, the possibility of transferring men from one Department to another, and the desirability of employing Writers were the great questions the Commission were instructed to report upon. Their views are decidedly of a sweeping nature. They advocate a continuance of the system of competitive examination, and propose to divide the ordinary Clerks into a higher and lower grade. In the case of the former, however, an extra examination in subjects of a kind that will be useful in a Departmental sense must be undergone, and the head of a Department will have the power of selecting a candidate according as he may be useful to his particular office. The candidate has the option of refusing to accept the election, without prejudicing his future chance of an appointment. The pay proposed for the lower grade is from £80 to £200 a year, for the higher £100 to £400, with triennial increments. In addition to such emolument, the head of a Department may grant "duty-pay," where he considers the nature of the work is sufficiently important to deserve it, or the capacity of the Clerk is above the ordinary standard. This pay not to exceed £200 in the higher, and £100 a year in the lower grade. A salary above £600 is to constitute a "staff-appointment," and here again the head of Department is to select his man according to merit, or he may fill up the post by the introduction of an "outsider" if he chooses. Promotion in all cases is distinctly dependent upon merit. The employment of Writers is tabooed. It is suggested that a floating staff of 100 be appointed, who will be transferred wherever their help is required. These are the main features of the alterations proposed. Considering the extraordinary power which will be given to the Heads of Departments, there appears to be no check whatever upon jobbery and favouritism—two of the worst grievances under which the Service labours at present. Nor is there any general improvement in the prospects of the men. £400 as a limit of "service-pay" is not equal to the present maximum in many branches, and the "duty-pay," being dependent

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upon the judgment, and, probably, very often the caprice of a chief, cannot be viewed as a certain prospect to any one. The disposal of so much patronage by the heads of departments would embroil the Service in never ending jealousies. Let merit be recognised by all means, but let advancement, that must be influenced by jobbery and toadyism, be discontinued.

The Arctic Expedition seems in a fair way of being set on foot in a manner hopeful for the enterprise and worthy of a country so eminently naval as our own. A most distinguished assemblage of notables met on Monday evening last, in the Theatre of the University of London, to hear an important paper, bearing on this interesting subject, by Admiral Sir J. H. Richards. The Chairman, Sir Henry Rawlinson, pointed out the impetus which the Royal Geographical Society had given to the undertaking. It is most gratifying to find, from the remarks he made, that the Government have warmly approved the suggestions made to them by that society, and have given orders for the fitting out of two vessels, the "Discovery" and the "Alert" for the expedition. The necessary preparations are now being carried out at Portsmouth, under the experienced supervision of Sir Leopold M'Clintock. The command of the vessels will be placed in the hands of officers specially selected. As regards detail, there appears to be a wonderful completeness. Zoologists and botanists have been appointed, and it is expected that a geologist will be added. The expedition is expected to start in May or June, and Admiral Richards expresses some hope of the North Pole itself being reached. Science has done much to facilitate such an undertaking since the days of Parry and Franklin, and she will doubtless be enriched by the results of an expedition so thoroughly equipped as the present is likely to be.

The borough of Stroud has attained considerable notoriety of late, and has this week been distinguished by an inquiry in the House of Commons. Within seven months it enjoyed the excitement of four elections, each of which was, with marvellous regularity, petitioned against, on the grounds of corrupt practices. Reasons sufficient to call for its disfranchisement appear to have existed in some hon. members' minds, and Mr. Charles Lewis moved in accordance with these views. But eventually the Member for Londonderry found himself in an unmistakable minority. Thus Stroud has the opportunity of showing that it is "never too late to mend." We hope she will avail herself of the chance.

A ball in aid of the benevolent fund of "Hanley Lodge," No. 797, was given last week at the Subscription Rooms, Dartmouth, and was very successful, about 150 being present. The stewards were Bros. the Rev. John Huyshe P.G.M., L. P. Metham D.P.G.M., Colonel Ridgway P.P.G.S.W., Major C. Scale Hayne P.P.S.G.D., A. Newman, P.P.G.S.D., H. Bridson 310, T. L. Prinsep P.P.S.D.C., H. G. Beachey P.M. 1158, John T. Goodridge W.M. 1358, Thomas Perry P.M. 1402, W. H. Goodridge W.M. 797, W. G. Ellis P.M. 797, B. H. Prescott P.M. 797, F. A. Dawson P.M., The Rev. Robert Bowden P.M., W. G. Vowles P.M. 103, Captain Westhead S.W. 710, John Hurrell Treasurer 797, R. A. Fowler R.N. 161, A. H. Dendy 1358, H. L. Toll 797, and J. Luke. The ball room was very tastefully decorated, and brilliantly lighted. The orchestra was occupied by the band of H.M.S. Britannia.

Bro. Gordon, of the Holborn Restaurant, announced that on Ash Wednesday the table d'hote dinner at his establishment would not be accompanied by the usual selection of music.

At a Masonic banquet held some time since in Chicago, Illinois, Bro. Ely S. Parker, a chief of the Six Nations, spoke in the most eloquent terms of the rapid disappearance of his race, his own forlorn condition, and his having sought a home and sympathy among the brotherhood "I knocked," said he, "at the door of the Blue Lodge, and found brotherhood around its altar. I went before the great light in the Chapter, and found companionship beneath the Royal Arch. I entered the encampment and found there, valiant sir, Knights willing to shield me here without regard to race or nation. I went further. I knelt at the Cross of my Saviour, and found Christian brotherhood, the crowning charity of the Masonic tie. I am happy to meet in the grand council of the gathering, and sit with you at this festive board, to share these greetings and hospitalities. I feel assured that, when my glass is run out, and I shall follow the footsteps of my departed race, Masonic sympathies will cluster round my coffin, and drop in my lonely grave the evergreen acacia, sweet emblem of a better meeting." A pause followed the conclusion of his speech, when Bro. Parker again rose, and said:—"I have in my possession a memento which I highly prize. I wear it next my heart. It came from my ancestors to me as their successor in office. It was a present from Washington to my grandfather, Red Jacket, when your nation was in its infancy. You will be glad to see and handle it, and I should do wrong not to give you the opportunity." He then drew from his bosom a massive medal, about seven inches by five, on one side of which was engraved the full-length figures of the two chiefs—Red Jacket presenting the pipe of peace, and Washington, with right hand extended, in the act of receiving it. On the other side were the Masonic emblems, with the date, 1792.

We announce, with pleasure, that Bro. H. Valleton, London correspondent of certain French Masonic journals will give every Monday and and Friday evening, between 9 p.m. and 10 p.m. precisely, a course of literary and philosophical readings on the latest important additions to high-class French literature. The series will commence on the evening of Friday the 19th instant, with a critical analysis of "L'Esprit Nouveau," the last work of M. Edgar Quinet. Prices of admission to seats: front 2s, back 1s, side 6d; or by monthly tickets: front 12s, back 6s, side 3s.

The annual Canary and Cage Bird Show at the Crystal Palace will open this day, and be continued till Thursday the 18th instant. Past experience induces us to hope that the exhibits this year will be at least as numerous and attractive—possibly even more so than on any previous occasions. We have further to announce that the dates of the third series of "National Music Meetings," which were held over from last year in consequence of the celebration of the Handel Festival, have been fixed by the directors. They will take place from the 1st to the 10th July.

THE DRAMA.

The Lancashire Lass—Uncle Tom's Cabin—The Royalty—Ash Wednesday.

FROM now, until Easter Monday there will be little stirring in the dramatic world. A few revivals of stock pieces may be expected, to eke out the expiring season, but no important theatrical event is at all probable. At the PRINCESS'S we have already to chronicle the revival of Byron's popular drama, *The Lancashire Lass*. This play, produced at the Queen's Theatre a year or two since, contains some powerful situations, and is altogether a more masculine piece of workmanship than any of that gentleman's more recent productions. Miss Lydia Foote has been selected to enact the heroine, and Mr. Emery, Mr. Belmore, Mrs. Alfred Mellon and Mr. Terris continue to give strength and efficiency to the cast.

At the ADELPHI also an old piece has been put up, which to many will have all the charm of novelty; we mean *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. The story is so well known, and has had so wide a popularity amongst the English people, that it is scarcely possible but that the play will attract a large number of people to the theatre.

After a long *relâche* the new ROYALTY opened its doors on Saturday 30th ult., under the management of Mr. D'Oyley Carte. Comedy and Opera Bouffe, of course, form the staple of the entertainment. Offenbach's *La Perichole*, and Mr. Campbell Clarke's *Awaking*, being the pieces selected. In the latter piece Mr. W. H. Stephens, Mr. Lin Rayne and Miss Bessie Hollingshead, play the most prominent parts, whilst in the former, it need hardly be said that Miss Selina Dolaro carries off the principal honours. She is, however, well supported by Mr. Walter Fisher, Mr. Morton, and Mesdames Verner, Leblanc and Lasalle. The programme is a very fair one, and is carried out in a manner deserving of commendation.

Ash Wednesday has come and gone, giving rise to the usual complaint of the hardship involved in the compulsory closing of London theatres, as it effects the theatrical *employés*. It certainly does seem unreasonable that a performance like *Hamlet* should be prohibited at the LYCEUM, whilst a wretched farrago of musical nonsense might be presented at the very same theatre without molestation. Mr. Hollingshead this year has forwarded to the Lord Chamberlain a formal protest against this antiquated restriction, signed by all the artists and labourers in his employ, between four and five hundred in all. We trust that the present Session of Parliament will not be allowed to pass without some attempt being made to abolish this absurd law. What makes the matter more ridiculous, the theatres outside London are free from all compulsion whatever, and may indulge in dramatic performances without let or hindrance,

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DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be greatly obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the kingdom would favour us with a copy of their summonses each time of issue.

SATURDAY, 13th FEBRUARY.

108—London, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
173—Phœnix, Freemasons' Hall.
1228—Granite, Freemasons' Hall.
1361—United Service, Greyhound, Richmond, Surrey.
1426—Great City, Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
1446—Mount Edgcumbe, Swan Tavern, Bridge-road, Battersea.

MONDAY, 15th FEBRUARY.

1—Grand Masters', Freemasons' Hall.
8—British, Freemasons' Hall.
21—Emulation, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
58—Felicity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
185—Tranquillity, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
720—Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham.
862—Whittington, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
901—City of London, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.
907—Royal Albert, Freemasons' Hall
1159—Marquis Dalhousie, Freemasons' Hall.
1201—Eclectic, Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 13—Prudence, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street.

61—Probity, Freemasons' Hall, Halifax.
264—Nelson of the Nile, Freemasons' Hall, Batley.
408—Three Graces, Haworth, Yorks.
1514—Thornhill, Masonic Room, Dearn House, Lindley, Yorks.
R. A. 139—Paradise, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
R. A. 827—St. John's, Masonic Temple, Dewsbury.

TUESDAY, 16th FEBRUARY.

Board of General Purposes, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.
30—United Mariners, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham Street.
73—Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark.
95—Eastern Star, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street.
162—Cadogan, Freemasons' Hall.
165—Honour and Generosity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate Street.
194—St. Paul's, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon Street.
435—Salisbury, Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 11—Enoch, Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 19—Mount Sinai, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street.
R. A. 186—Industry, Freemasons' Hall.

1314—Scarborough, Station Hotel, Southill, Batley.
1470—Chiltern, Town Hall, Dunstable.

WEDNESDAY, 17th FEBRUARY.

General Committee of Grand Lodge and Lodge of Benevolence, Freemasons' Hall, at 6.
140—St. George's, Trafalgar Hotel, Greenwich.
174—Sincerity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham Street.
190—Oak, Freemasons' Hall
700—Nelson, Masonic Hall, William Street, Woolwich.
879—Southwark, Southwark-park Tavern, Southwark-park.
969—Mayhury, Freemasons' Hall.
1044—Wandsworth, Spread Eagle Hotel, Wandsworth
1150—Buckingham and Chandos, Freemasons' Hall.
1349—Friars, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars.
1382—Corinthian, George Inn, Glengall Road, Isle of Dogs.

258—Amphibious, Freemasons' Hall, Heckmondwike.
280—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Morley, Yorks.
287—Airedale, Masonic Hall, Shipley, Yorks.
910—St. Oswald, Masonic Hall, Pontefract.
1019—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Wakefield.
1301—Brighouse, Masonic Rooms, Brighouse, Yorks.
1479—Halsey, Town Hall, St. Albans.
R. A. 820—Lily Chap. of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond.
R.A. 857—St. Mark's, Half Moon Tavern, Herne Hill
R. A. 1305—St. Marylebone, British Stores, New Street, St. John's Wood.

THURSDAY, 18th FEBRUARY.

House Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
23—Globe, Freemasons' Hall.
40—Gihon, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.
65—Constitutional, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon Street.
63—St. Mary's, Freemasons' Hall.
169—Temperance, White Swan, High Street, Deptford.
179—Manchester, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street.
181—Universal, Freemasons' Hall.
733—Westbourne, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood.
813—New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton.
1139—South Norwood, South Norwood Hall, South Norwood.
1278—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Approach-road, Victoria-park.
1287—Great Northern, King's Cross.
1339—Stockwell, Half Moon, Herne Hill.
1506—White Horse of Kent, 33 Golden-square.
1507—Metropolitan, Metropolitan Club, 269 Pentonville-road.

208—Three Grand Principles, Masonic Hall, Dewsbury.
275—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield.
837—Candour, Commercial Inn, Uppermill, Yorks.
869—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Bradford.
1042—Excelsior, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
1125—St. Peter's, Freemasons' Hall, Tiverton, Devon.
1421—Langthorne, Swan Hotel, Stratford, Essex.
R. A. 79—Pythagorean, Ship Hotel, Greenwich.

FRIDAY, 19th FEBRUARY.

House Committee, Boys' School, at 4.
6—Friendship, Willis's Rooms, King-street, St. James's.
145—Middlesex, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
201—Jordan, Freemasons' Hall.
1118—University, Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 92—Moira, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.

401—Royal Forest, Hark-to-Bounty Inn, Slaidburn, Yorks.
652—Holme Valley, Victoria Hotel, Holmfirth.
975—Rose of Denmark, White Hart Hotel, Barnes.
1034—Eccleshill, Freemasons' Hall, Eccleshill, Yorks.
1108—Wharfedale, Private Room, Westgate, Otley.
1311—Zetland, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
R. A. 521—Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Huddersfield.
R. A. 857—Marquess Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon.

SATURDAY, 20th FEBRUARY.

715—Panmure, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
1364—Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Hackney.
1425—Hyde Park, 1 Craven-road, Paddington.

149—Peace, Masonic Hall, Meltham.
309—Prince George, Bottoms, Eastwood, Yorks.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY.—44.—St. Luke, Freemasons' Hall.
TUESDAY.—36.—St. David, Ship Hotel, East Register Street.
" 405.—Rifle, Freemasons' Hall.
WEDNESDAY.—160.—Roman Eagle, Iona Hotel, 62 Nicholson Street.
THURSDAY.—49.—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall.
" 236.—Portobello, Royal Hotel, Bath Street.
" R. A. 151.—Perseverance, Lodge Room, 86 Constitution Street.
FRIDAY.—R. A. 83.—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Era Lodge of Mark Master Masons.—The consecration and installation was held on 5th February, at the Bridge House Hotel. Bro. R. W. Little G.M.A. opened the Lodge, and performed the ceremony of installation. Bros. Levander P.M. acted as S.W., T. J. Sabine P.M. as J.W., and F. Walters P.M. as M.C. Bro. Levander, with his usual ability, installed Bro. J. T. Moss P.G.S. (Middlesex) as W.M., who then appointed his officers as follows, viz.—Bros. H. C. Dubois S.W., J. Baxter Langley J.W., Rev. T. Holden Chaplain, H. J. Green M.O., T. Orton S.O., W. Hammond J.O., W. Bell R. of Marks, J. Hammond S.D., A. F. Loos J.D., J. Johnson I.G., T. H. Miller P.M. Treasurer, F. Walters P.G.P. (Middlesex) P.M. Secretary, W. Laing Tyler. On the conclusion of the ceremony the following brethren were advanced into the Order, viz.—Bros. J. Wallis 1326, J. Johnson 1423, Munday 1423, and D. Weinhausan 1423. Votes of thanks and honourary memberships were unanimously recorded to Bros. R. W. Little, H. C. Levander and T. J. Sabine, for their united services. Several candidates were proposed for advancement on the next meeting. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a very excellent banquet, where the usual toasts were given and responded to. The visitors were Bros. Sugg (Bon Accord) and E. H. Thiellay.

Egyptian Lodge, No. 27.—The installation meeting of this ancient and flourishing Lodge was held on Thursday, the 4th instant, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, Bro. C. Atkins W.M., supported by the Wardens, Officers and Past Masters, Bros. Poole, Buss, Libbis, D. H. Jacobs, Payne, Harrison, and a numerous assemblage of the brethren. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. The S.W.'s chair was occupied by Bro. J. Smith P.G.P., and the J.W.'s by Bro. Wright A.G.P. Bro. Lumble was then duly installed into the chair by Bro. J. Savage P.G.D., who has performed that ceremony in the Egyptian Lodge for thirty-two consecutive years; there were twenty-one W.M.'s and P.M.'s present. The following officers were invested: Bros. Green S.W., Hales J.W., H. G. Buss P.M. Treasurer, he having previously occupied the office of Secretary for twenty-four years, Poole P.M. Secretary, Walker S.D., Pattenden J.D., Richards I.G., T. Maidwell D.C., D. H. Jacobs W.S., and Potter Tyler. The marks of approbation shown by the brethren at the mention of each name was a proof of the popularity of those selected for office. The newly installed W.M. then initiated Mr. J. Lindell. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren, 75 in number, sat down to a sumptuous banquet provided by Bro. Clemow, and superintended by Bro. Smith. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given. Bro. Joseph Smith P.G.P. returned thanks for the toast of the Grand Officers. He thought that that toast would have been responded to by Bro. John Savage; the brethren knew that the Grand Officers were selected for merit and ability, and that brother was the embodiment of those qualities. The W.M., in proposing the toast of the visitors, stated there were 33 present, and with the toast he would couple the names of two. One represented the Provincial brethren, and the other the London brethren, viz.—Bro. Derry P.G.J.W. (Staffordshire) and Bro. Maple P.M. 65. Those brethren eloquently responded. Bro. Atkins I.P.M. then proposed the toast of the W.M. He alluded to the perfect manner he had performed the ceremony of initiation. The W.M. said he had a very pleasing duty to perform, viz.—to propose the health of the installing master, Bro. John Savage P.G.D., who, on rising to reply, said he returned thanks for the kind feelings expressed by the brethren, for it was indeed a great source of pleasure to hear them. He had watched the growing prosperity of the Lodge, and although he was pleased that his well-known voice had for the last 32 years been among them annually, he yet hoped, while he had health and strength, to do all required of him, not only for the Egyptian Lodge in particular, but also for the Craft in general, and before resuming his seat, paid a just compliment to the W.M. After the toast of the Newly Initiated, followed the Masonic Charities, coupled with the name of Br. F. Binckes P.G.S. and Secretary of the Boys' School. Br. Binckes replied in one of his characteristic speeches; he not only dilated on the merits of the institution to which he was attached, but also advocated the cause of the other Masonic Charities. After the toast of the Wardens, Bro. J. Savage proposed the toast of the I.P.M. Bro. Charles Atkins, and presented him, in the name of the Lodge, with a very elegant gold P.M. jewel, with suitable inscription. Br. Atkins, he said, had been Steward for the Royal Benevolent Institution, and had handed over above £100, he therefore felt a great pleasure in placing that jewel on his breast, and he honed he might live long to wear it (cheers). Bro. Atkins having responded, the Tyler's toast followed, and after passing a very agreeable evening the brethren separated.

St. John's Lodge, No. 90.—The regular meeting of this Lodge took place on Monday, 8th inst., at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate Street, Bro. N. Wetherell W.M. in the chair, supported by his officers, as follows:—Bros. W. B. Suelling S.W., T. P. Griffin P.M. J.W., J. Eglese P.M. Treasurer, J. Griffin P.M. Hon. Secretary, W. Stormer S.D., T. N. Smith J.D., J. G. Robson I.G., W. R. Stephens P.M. D.C., and Past Masters J. S. Adam J.D., McDougal, T. P.

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Griffin, and Bros. J. Kelsey, G. Thorne, W. P. Brown, P. Coard, W. Knapp Henderson, J. Pearce, W. P. Margetson, W. Colpoys, J. A. Meyrick, J. A. Allison and J. L. Cross. The minutes of last Lodge were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Mr. R. Cresswell, which proved unanimous. Mr. Cresswell was then admitted, and initiated into the mysteries of Ancient Freemasonry. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet. There were the following brethren among the visitors:—Bros. McDougal 3, Wilcox, Campbell, South.

Vitruvian Lodge, No. 87.—A meeting of this Lodge was held at the White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, on Wednesday, 10th inst. Present—Bros. C. S. Jolly W.M., E. Thurkle S.W., B. Clegg J.W., C. Walters S.D., H. T. T. Ross J.D., C. Nott I.G., Bros. J. G. Bond P.M. Treasurer, H. Mallett Secretary, P.M.'s Noke, Cherry, Hall, Morris, Hopkins and about 50 other brethren. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The Lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bros. W. Hallam, B. Hallam, F. Goulty and Pearmine having proved their proficiency in that degree, retired. The Lodge was opened in the third degree, and Bros. W. Hallam, B. Hallam, F. Goulty and Pearmine were raised to the sublime degree. The Lodge resumed to the first degree, and Bros. Goodman, Tupper and Beard, having answered the usual questions, were intrusted and retired. The Lodge resumed to the second degree, and they were accordingly passed to the degree of F.C.'s. The Lodge resumed to the first degree, and a ballot taken for Messrs. Ireland, Wood, Tallfatt, Dale, and Benn, which proving unanimous in their favour, they were initiated in the ancient mysteries. Bro. E. Thurkle S.W. was elected W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. J. G. Bond P.M. re-elected Treasurer. Bro. Ellis, in consequence of ill health, having resigned the post of Tyler, Bros. Bentley, Thomas, Fox, and Sharrad offered themselves as candidates for the office. A ballot was accordingly taken, and Bro. Bentley was elected. A P.M.'s jewel was voted to the outgoing W.M. for his services. The Lodge closed and the brethren adjourned to banquet. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to. There were several visitors present, amongst whom we noticed a brother from a Japan Lodge, and Brother Hough, Grand Officer.

The Sun, Square and Compasses Chapter, No. 119, Whitehaven.—A regular convocation of this Chapter was held on Monday evening last, at 7 o'clock. The M.E.Z., Comp. John Barr, was supported by Comps. E. Fearon H., Dr. Henry J., W. B. Gibson P.Z., John Bowes P.Z., &c. E. Tyson P.S. and other Officers and Companions. Bros. Montgomery and J. D. Thompson were exalted by the M.E.Z. in a manner that called forth the warmest approbation of all present. At the conclusion of the business, E. Comp. Gibson proposed, E. Comp. Fearon seconded, and it was unanimously resolved "that the best thanks of the Chapter are due and hereby accorded to E. Comp. Bowes for his valuable services as preceptor." Comp. Bowes, after acknowledging the compliment, congratulated the members on the proficiency of their officers, especially the M.E.Z. The Chapter was then closed, and the Companions adjourned to refreshment.

Prudent Brethren Chapter, No 145.—This important Chapter held its second meeting of the season, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, on Tuesday last, 9th February, on which occasion there were three candidates for exaltation, viz., Bros. Fred. Godfrey 1257, W. H. W. Wilkinson 145, and D. M. Balfrage 179. The exaltees appeared sensibly impressed with the beautiful ceremony, which was admirably rendered by Companion John Boyd, the acting M.E.Z., who was ably assisted in the duties by Comps. C. A. Long H., Thomas Bull J., and Parkins P.S. The Chapter was then closed. The banquet was presided over by the M.E.Z. Comp. Walford, the usual toasts were given and responded to. The visitors were Comps. B. W. Swallow 19, Rev. P. M. Holden 907, James Slack 19, T. W. Murley 17, J. Kench 538, J. Hughes 19, and J. Laskey 72.

Kelso "Tweed" Lodge, No. 261.—The regular monthly meeting of this Lodge was held in the Lodge room, Cross Keys Hotel, on Wednesday night, the 3rd inst. The minutes of previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Fellow Crafts Tod, Mills and Pugh were raised to the sublime degree. After which Past Master Henry Gibson, Prov. Grd. Sen. Warden of East Lothian, proceeded to instal Right Worshipful Master John Smith Macgregor, this being his fourth year of office—the ceremony of installation having been postponed in consequence of Bro. Gibson's inability to be present at the Festival of St. John the Evangelist. The R.W.M. then installed his officers:—James Steel P.M., William Steel S.M., Molison Belford D.M., W. F. Vernon S.W., Arch. Steel J.W., Rev. James Smith Chaplain, W. F. Vernon Bard, Rob. Watt Secretary, John Maxwell Treasurer, And. Gray S.D. Mills J.D., Bros. Thompson and Read Stewards, Rob. Inglis I.G., Jas. Allan Tyler. Afterwards the brethren sat down to an excellent supper, supplied by Bro. Keddie in his best style, and enjoyed themselves heartily. Their annual torchlight procession to the old Abbey, supper and ball, take place on Friday the 12th proximo.

Lodge Clyde, No. 408, Glasgow.—A special meeting of this Lodge was held on the 5th instant, for the purpose of according a hearty welcome to one of its members Bro. Henry M'Donald, lately second mate of the ill-fated emigrant ship, the "Cospatrick," and one of the three survivors of that terrible catastrophe which caused its destruction and the loss of over 470 lives. About sixty brethren were present, Bro. William Harper W.M. presiding, supported by Bros. Duncan Dannie P.M., J. Buchanan P.M., John M'Innes S.W., William Bilsland J.W., &c., &c. The Lodge having been opened, the W.M. briefly referred to the occasion of their meeting, and having called Bro. M'Donald to the dais, in order to receive the right hand of fellowship, directed that the Lodge be called to refreshment. This being done, the stewards having discharged their duty, and the usual loyal toasts having been proposed and responded to, the health of Bro. M'Donald was drunk with great enthusiasm. Bro. M'Donald, in acknowledging the kindly feeling with which his name had been received, gave a brief sketch of the perils he had undergone and so providentially escaped from, and in the course of his observations mentioned how fraternally he had been received by the brethren at St. Helena, who had no sooner heard that he was a brother and the situation he was in than they collected and forwarded to him a sum of over £10, together with a heartfelt expression of their entire sympathy in his sufferings. This announcement was cordially received by Bro. M'Donald's audience, and it was at once agreed that a letter of thanks to the St. Helena brethren, for their great kindness to a distressed member, should be sent, and that the leading Office Bearers of the St. Helena should be made honorary members of Lodge Clyde. After sundry other toasts the Lodge was again called to labour, and afterwards closed in due form.

Dalbeattie Lodge, No. 480.—A meeting of a board of installing masters was held in the Maxwell Arms Hotel, Dalbeattie, on Thursday, the 28 ult., for the purpose of installing Bros. J. M'Muldrow, R.W.M. 41, John Gordon 189, and A. M'K. Millman 494. The Lodge was opened in the first degree by Bro. James Ritchie R.W.M. 480, when the formal vouchers of election to office of the above R.W.M.'s were produced. The Lodge was then opened in the second degree, and the customary addresses and charges were given to the candidates. The brethren who were not installed Master Masons then retired, and the Lodge was raised to the third degree, after which the ceremony of installation was proceeded with, the board being opened by Bro. Dykes, of Dumfries, assisted by Bros. James Ritchie and Wm. Kerr. After the installation the board was closed, and the Master Masons were admitted, and saluted the newly installed Masters, who were duly proclaimed from the east, west, and south as installed masters of their different Lodges. The Lodge was then closed in the different degrees.

Beadon Chapter, No. 619.—A Convocation of this Chapter, whose meetings have been numerously attended, met on Thursday, the 4th instant, at Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, Basinghall Street, Comps. G. A. Smith M.E.Z., W. H. Green H., R. H. Williams J, and P.Z.'s A. Avery and J. Avery. The Chapter was opened, and the minutes of the former Convocation were read and confirmed. Ballots were then taken, and the following candidates, being in attendance, were exalted into R.A. Masonry, viz. Bros. J. L. Vallentin No. 742, G. Saunders 1314, H. Webb 1314, J. W. Wrangham 619, B. White 619, E. Wright 619, A. Anderson 619 and H. Bond 1360. The installation of Principals for the ensuing year then took place, Bro. W. Smeed P.Z. 946 performing that arduous and impressive ceremony in his usual perfect manner. The officers appointed were, Comps. Green M.E.Z., R. H. Williams H., Seamen J., Angus S.E., E. Coote, S. N. Wyre, P. S. Carrington 1st Assistant, Freeman 2nd Assistant, and Laing Janitor. A vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to Bro. W. Smeed P.Z. 946, for the admirable manner he had installed the Principals into their various chairs. It was unanimously carried that the future meetings of the Chapter should be held at the Horns Tavern, Kennington. The Chapter was then closed and the banquet followed, after which the usual loyal and R.A. toasts were given and responded to. The visitors were Bros. Gilbert and Leehman, of the Lebanon Chapter.

Doric Lodge, No. 933.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, the 9th inst. at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Bro. Marsh W.M., who had occupied the chair of the Albion Lodge, No. 9, was supported by the officers and P.M.'s, Bros. Yetton, Wainwright, Griffin and Austin. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. Braywas raised to 3rd degree; Bro. Campbell was passed to 2nd degree. The Board of Installed Masters having been formed, Bro. Ayton S.W. and W.M. elect was then presented to the Lodge, and Bro. Barnes P.M. and Treasurer duly installed that Bro. into the chair. The W. M. then appointed his officers as follows: Marsh I.P.M., Taylor S.W., J. G. Stevens, P.M., J. W. Barnes P.M. Treasurer, Bowron P.M. Secretary, Tucker S.D., Digby J.D., Hollington I.G., and Grant Tyler. The newly-installed W.M. then initiated Messrs. Nott and Dance into the Order, working the ceremonies in a very praiseworthy manner. He then, in feeling terms, presented Bro. Marsh I.P.M. with a very elegant P.M. jewel, suitably inscribed, for the services rendered to the Lodge during his year of office. A suitable response having been given, the Lodge was then closed, and the brethren, 93 in number—above 50 of whom were visitors—sat down to a sumptuous banquet supplied by Bro. Clemow, and superintended by Bros. Smith and J. G. Stevens. The toast of the "Queen and the Grand Officers" was given, also that of the W.M., P.M.'s and Visitors. Two brethren connected with the Masonic Charities being present, viz., Bros. Robert Wentworth Little and F. Binckes, and two brethren connected with the Lodge, who had so nobly contributed to them, viz., Bro. Berry and J. G. Stevens, each responded to the toast in eloquent terms. The toast of the Wardens, Treasurer, Secretary and Officers was duly given, and the brethren separated. Among those present we noticed Br. F. Binckes P.G.S., Secretary Boys' School, Robert Wentworth Little, Secretary Girls' School, A. E. Harriss P.M. 141, T. S. Mortlock P.M. 186, C. E. Lacey P.M. 186, Klench W.M. 1339, Cringle, Stirling, Bell, Coard P.M., Myers, Myerscough, H. M. Levy P.M. 188, &c.

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Royal St. Edmunds Lodge, No. 1008.—On Friday evening, 5th Feb., a Masonic Ball, under the auspices of the W.M. and brethren of the above Lodge, took place at the Athenæum Hall, Bury St. Edmunds. The company numbered about 230. Captain C. J. Tufnell Oakes W.M. officiated as Master of the Ceremonies, and the following brethren acted as Stewards:—Bros. the Worshipful the Mayor, G. Thompson P.M. 1008, Major T. J. Huddleston P.M. 1008, and P.P.G.S.W. Suffolk; Capt. J. N. York P.M. 1008, 88, and P.P.G.S.W. Cambridge; W. E. Bailey P.P.M. 1008, and P.G.A. Sec. Suffolk; J. Hendley Bevan S.W. 1008, J. D. Perrott P.M. 651, 1072, and P.P.G.S.W. Wales; William Patrick J.D. 1008, Henry Miller I.G. 1008; Capt. W. Horn N.E. 1008, Henry L. Cockedge 1008, Captain E. P. Huddleston 1008, T. F Lucia 1008, and P.G.S., William Clarke Steward 1008, and P.P.G.S. Suffolk; Charles Jennings 1008, W. J. Nunn Org. 1008, Benjamin Chennell 1008 J.D. 88, and P.G.A.D.C. Cambridge; Odden F. Read 1008, Philip Fitch 1008, F. M. Fyson 1008, J. G. Oliver 1008, G. H. Nunn 1008, A. Darence George W.M. 114, Samuel H. Wright P.M. 516, and P.P.G.R. Suffolk, T. J. Smith W.M. 516, Francis Wheeler 1224. A capital supper was served by Bro. W. G. Guy, of the Angel Hotel. Howlett's excellent band occupied the orchestra. The ball-room was elaborately and elegantly decorated. At the south end of the room a large crimson panel bore the inscription "Royal St. Edmunds Lodge 1008," in gold and blue; and on a similar panel on each side were the "*Audi, Vide, Tace.*" Between each window on the east side was placed an elegant pier glass, with a triplet of Royal Arch or Craft candles, and under them were crimson panels bearing the working tools of different degrees of blue Masonry. The staircases and balcony at the north end were draped with crimson, inscribed "Faith," "I.T.N.O.T.G.A.O.T.U.," in blue and gold characters. The beautiful silk bannerets of White Rose Chapter 1008 lined the staircase, and had a very pretty effect. The brethren appeared in Craft clothing until eleven o'clock, and afterwards that of the Royal Arch, Knights Templars and other degrees.

Underley Lodge, No. 1074, Kirkby Lonsdale.—The annual meeting of this Lodge took place on Friday afternoon, 5th inst. The only business was the installation of the W.M. elect, The Earl of Bective M.P. P.G.M., supplemented by the annual banquet. The Lodge was opened by the W.M. Bro. D. Page M.D. assisted by his Wardens and a full attendance of members and visitors. The P.G.M. being announced, he was admitted and received with the accustomed honours. The Lodge being opened in the second degree, his Lordship was presented for the benefit of installation by Bro. John Bowes P.M. P. Prov. G. Reg.; the first part of the ceremony was conducted by the W.M. The chair of K.S. was then assumed by Bro. John Bowes, who installed the noble Earl as W.M. of the Underley Lodge for the ensuing year. The concluding portion of the ceremony was most impressively rendered by Bro. W. Dodd P.M. 1074. The W.M. closed the Lodge down to the first degree, and then appointed and invested his Wardens and other Officers; the former being Bros. the Rev. Canon Ware P.M., &c., and W. James P.M., &c. Bro. Dr. Page I.P.M. then handed to his Lordship a very handsome marble Timepiece, and asked him to present it to their worthy Bro. Anderson, who had filled the office of Tyler without fee or reward from the time the Lodge was constituted. The W.M. willingly acceded, and in graceful terms made the presentation. Bro. Anderson feelingly replied. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. The chair was occupied by the W.M. the Right Hon. the Earl of Bective M.P. P.G.M., who was supported on the right and left by Bros. the Rev. J. V. Thompson Chap., John Talbot W.M. No. 129, and Prov. G.J.W., H. Ranthmell P.M. P.P.G.D. Cers., Joseph Bintley P.M. Prov. G.S. of Wks., Dr. Page I.P.M. Prov. G.S.B., John Bowes P.M. P.P.G. Reg., John Holme P.M. P.P. G.I.W., W. Dodd P.M. P.P.G.S.B., W. Bell, No. 314, Preston, R. Pearson P.M., Prov. G. Reg. West Lancashire, J. Postlethwaite P.M. Prov. G. Steward W.L., W. James P.M. P.P.G.D. J.W. The S.W., the Rev. Canon Ware P.M. P.P.G.S.W. ruled in the West. The following toasts were ably proposed and responded to:—"The Queen," "The Prince and Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family," "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the Most Worshipful Grand Master," "The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, Most Worshipful Pro. Grand Master, The Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers," "The Right Hon. Earl of Bective M.P., W.M., and Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, John Whitwell, Esq. M.P., Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and the rest of the Provincial Grand Officers," "The I.P.M. Bro. Dr. D. Page," "The Wardens and Officers of 1074," "The Visiting Brethren," "The Masonic Charities," "The Treasurer," "To all Poor and Distressed Freemasons throughout the Globe, and speedy relief to them." The music was under the direction of Bro. Godfrey, and contributed largely to the pleasures of the evening.

Hervey Lodge, No. 1260.—The above Lodge met on the 10th inst., at Freemasons Hall, Great Queen-street. Bros. Darby W.M., Maples S.W., Harrison J.W., Jabez Hogg P.G.D. P.M. Treasurer, G. King jun. I.P.M. Secretary, Hollingsworth S.D., Bryan J.D., Lowes I.G., G. King P.M. D.C., and Speight Tyler. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. Cox and Hodgkinson were raised to the third degree. Bros. Howell, Hervey, Portway, Binley and Washington were passed to the second degree. A sum of five guineas was proposed, and unanimously carried, for the purpose of presenting the retiring W.M. with a P.M. jewel, in recognition of his efficient services as W.M. during his year of office. The election for W.M. then took place, and resulted in Bro. Jabez Hogg P.G.D. and P.M. being elected W.M. for the ensuing year. The retiring W.M., Bro. Darby, was elected Treasurer, and Br. Speight Tyler. Br. Harrison announced his intention to act as Steward for the Girls' School. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to "Simpson's Hotel," Strand, where a very excellent banquet was provided by Br. Cathey. Br. Jabez Hogg P.G.D. returned thanks for the toast of the Grand officers, Bro. Mounsey for the Newly Initiated. The W.M. proposed the toast of the W.M. elect. He might, without egotism, say, how pleased they all were to have an officer of the Grand Lodge of England to preside over them. Br. Hogg thanked the brethren for the honour conferred on him. He was one of the founders of the Lodge, and while he had health and strength he would always be ready and willing to conduce to their comfort. The toast of the W.M. was given by Br. G. King jun. I.P.M. The visitors were Bros. G. Fagg No. 30, F. Binckes P.G S., Green No. 27, Evans 212 and H. M. Levy P.M. 188. During the evening several of the brethern contributed to the enjoyment of the company by some well rendered songs.

Golden Rule Lodge, No. 1261.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday last, at the Regent Masonic Hall, Air Street, Regent Street. There were present the W.M., Bro. J. Harris, Bros. W. W. Smith S.W., A. Alworth J.W., F. Bigg P.M. Treasurer, Abner Torkington Secretary, J. Perry Godfrey J.D., A. H. Williams D.C., F. Longley I.G., A. Cross P.M., Bros. G. James, A. Curtiss, F. Deane, A. Fabian P.M., H. A. Bennett P.M., T. A. Millington, M. Wolfsky. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed. The Lodge was opened in second degree, and Bro. A. Curtiss was passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. The Lodge was opened in third degree, and Bro. W. Wellen Smith was duly installed as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year by Bro. A. H. Williams P.M. The officers were appointed and invested as follows:—Bros. A. Alworth S.W., A. Torkington J.W., J. P. Godfrey S.D., F. Longley J.D., A. Millington I.G., A. H. Williams P.M. D.C., F. Bigg P.M. Treasurer, J. Harris I.P.M. Secretary. The Lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned to banquet, where the usual Masonic toasts were duly given and responded to. The visitors present were Bro. Lefevre P.M. 130 P.P.G. Secretary (Hampshire and Isle of Wight), who returned thanks for the visitors; Bros. H. Harben P.M. 92, J. Thorne 395, C. Edwards I.G. 452, Oakley Colls 11, J. Ridley 3, R. Vivian 177, G. Harly 1201, F. Cheesewright 160, W. Smith 905, R. Morrison 905.

Metropolitan Lodge, No. 1507.—A very interesting ceremony in connection with this Lodge took place at the Metropolitan Club, King's Cross, on Friday, 5th February, viz.—founding a Lodge of Instruction under the warrant of the Lodge. The brethren assembled in force. Bros. Willing W.M., T. Adams P.M. P.G.P.; Bros. Coulton P.M., Tims P.M., Michael S.W., Williams J.W., Stiles, Kingham, Douglass, Child, Scales, Cheek, Side, Jones, Gilbert, Cook, Maples, Cox and others. The veteran, T. Adams, was appointed Preceptor, Bro. Willing Treasurer, and Bro. Stiles Secretary. The bye laws for the governance of the Lodge were duly prepared to be submitted to Grand Lodge for approval, after which the third degree was worked by the W.M. Bro. Adams, in proposing a vote of thanks to the W.M., said he had known him as Secretary of Domatic Lodge No. 177 for some time, but must express his surprise at the efficient manner he conducted the ceremony. The W.M. said it was a source of great pride to him to have the approbation of so distinguished a brother. Bro. Adams announced his intention of being present every Friday when possible. A vote of thanks was passed to the Hon. Secretary, Bro. Stiles. After a very pleasant meeting, the Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to supper. The meetings will be on Fridays at 7, and we doubt not that, under the able preceptorship of Bro. Adams, and owing to the central position of the Lodge, it will become one of the most popular in London.

The Cornwall Chapter of Rose Croix was formally opened and consecrated on Tuesday, 2nd February, at the Masonic Hall, New Public Rooms, Truro, by Major Clerke 33, Secretary-General, representative of the Supreme Council of England. There was a large number present as visitors, including Lieut.-General Doherty C.B. 33, Inspector-General for the Western District for this rite; Lieut.-Colonel Elliott 31 P.M.W.S. St. Aubyn, Devonport, Captain Shanks M.W.S. St. Aubyn, W. B. Hambly M.W.S. Hayshe, and Colonel Fitzgerald. After the consecration of the Chapter, Sir F. M. Williams Bart. M.P. was installed as M.W.S., and afterwards appointed his officers as follows:—Rev. George Rose H.P., Colonel Peard 1st G., N. J. West 2nd G., F. W. Dabb Treasurer, E. T. Anderton G.M., J. P. Penrose R., C. Trevithick C.G., C. Truscott Recorder, J. Hocking jun. Org., Rev. W. H. Bloxsome C., Rev. A. H. Ferris A., and W. Rooks O.G. Major Shadwell H. Clerke administered the degrees of the ancient and accepted rite up to the 18th to nine candidates, and conducted the whole of the proceedings in a most impressive and faultless manner. An excellent banquet was afterwards served at the Red Lion Hotel, Sir F. M. Williams in the chair. Letters of apology for non-attendance were read from Captain N. G. Phillips 33 S.G.C. of the Supreme Council, the Rev. P. H. Newnham 32, V. Bird 30, and others. The meeting was a great success, and the whole of the fittings were much admired.

The annual ball of the St. James's Union Lodge was held on Thursday evening, 4th February, at Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, and, from the attendance of ladies, brethren, and non members of the Craft, the promoters may congratulate themselves on the success achieved. Bros. Coote and Tinney's band was all that could be desired. Supper was provided by Bro. Francatelli in three rooms, and each table was ably presided over, the principal one by the W.M. of the Lodge, Bro. Parsons.

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MONEY MARKET AND CITY NEWS.

FRIDAY.

Although the general volume of business continues upon a somewhat limited scale, the various movements of the week have a decidedly healthy appearance. Money is fairly abundant, and the rates for carrying over transactions to the next account, which were adopted at the settlement just concluded, were very light in most instances. The stock markets, therefore, have shown a disposition to respond to this more hopeful condition of affairs, and a sensible improvement is noted in many cases. The Board of Trade returns, just issued, do not, however, bear out the conclusions that had been formed of a natural extension of our imports and exports in the first month of the year. As regards nearly every item of exports there is a distinct falling off in quantities, while the decrease in proportionate value is considerably larger. The actual figures for the month represent a total value of £16,996,760 against £19,472,467, in 1874, and £20,296,547 in 1873, the decrease on last year's amount being equal to 12¼ per cent. Under the head of imports the tables show a slightly more favourable result, inasmuch as the total imports for the month are valued at £32,375,675, being an increase of 3½ per cent. upon the corresponding month of last year, when the total amount was £31,274,404, against £27,397,673 in 1873. A great deal of attention having recently been directed to the issue of two new foreign loans, it may be supposed from their being so well taken up in this country that the financial position and prospects of the borrowers is considered satisfactory, and that the price of issue and other details have been acceptable. The success of the issue of Turkish Five per Cents. last September, and the still more recent success of the Brazilian Loan, are striking examples of the credit attached to the obligations entered into by the respective Governments. The good reception of a loan does not, however, depend entirely on the actual merits of the security itself, or on the price of issue. Many examples could be given where loans have proved complete failures although there could be no question either as to the tangible prospects of the security, or as to the cheapness of the price of issue. The taste or fancy of investors at the time of issue, with other surrounding circumstances, has no doubt a considerable influence on the reception of a loan, such, for instance, as the state of the Money Market and foreign politics, which tell visibly on the results; the supply of money in the hands of the public available for investment, necessarily forms another important consideration in estimating the probable success of any new operation of this nature. It may therefore be asserted for these reasons, which are clearly to be distinguished as external causes, that there are at all times important influences at work which have more to do with the success of a new loan than the merits and features of the stock actually presents in itself. There can be no doubt, as remarks the *Financier*, that as regards loans for any but countries holding the highest rank for wealth and honesty of purpose, some very stringent measures are necessary for compelling a full and true statement of the position of the finances, as well as for setting up some tangible security for the regular payment of the interest and sinking funds. The most certain means of obtaining these ends are for investors to abstain from applying for loans that are issued without these safeguards. And as regards the accuracy and truthfulness of such statements let equivocation or falsehood in this respect be held by the Stock Exchange Committee to be as great an offence as the non-fulfilment of obligations, and let it be dealt with in the same way.

Through the Bank return being weaker than last week, the markets are inclined to droop a little, the proportion of reserve to liabilities now standing at 42½, compared with 43 per cent. in the previous account; nevertheless the English Funds maintain a steady appearance, and are quoted 92½ to 93 for money, 93 to 93½ for the account.

The outlines of business in the Foreign markets were tolerably favourable until the publication of the Bank return, when prices gave way to a trifling extent. There is nothing, however, to be considered of much importance in the movements. A telegram has been received announcing that arrangements have now been finally concluded between the Turkish Government and the Ottoman Bank, whereby the difficulties relative to the recent convention have at last been settled.

Replying to a deputation which urged such an alteration in the mode of collecting Queen's taxes as would relieve private individuals of that duty, the Chancellor of the Exchequer one day this week stated that if the feeling of the country was in favour of the collection being undertaken by a Government officer, he saw no reason why it should not be done. The real difficulty was in the opposition which had hitherto been raised to that proposal.

The market for English railways was at one time extremely buoyant, but the excitement has since toned down, and the average range of prices has not been altogether maintained.

The Government broker has purchased £50,000 new three per cent. stock on account of the National Debt Commissions and the Post Office Savings' Banks.

It is announced from Paris that the new Municipal Loan has been subscribed for forty-two-and-a-half times over. The deposit money paid into the Treasury amounts to 848,000,000 francs.

We understand that a requisition, signed by the holders of Brighton railway stock to the amount of £1,000,000 has been forwarded to the Chairman, requesting him to call a meeting to consider the advisability of dividing the ordinary stock into A and B shares.

The London and North Western dividend is announced at the rate of 7½ per cent., against 8 per cent. last year. The Lancashire and Yorkshire announce their dividend at the rate of 6¼ per cent.

Messrs. Stallard and Smith in their monthly wine circular state that "the progress of the 1874 wines in France is reported as satisfactory, but will continue to be watched with interest, in consequence of the peculiarities of the vintage; they show much vinosity with delicacy of flavour and bouquet, but at the same time a slight want of colour and firmness. For shipping purposes 1872's and 1873's are more inquired for, and good prices have been paid for the best growths offering on the market. At Cognac the market is without much life, in consequence of the paucity of foreign orders; at present growers do not appear inclined to meet the shippers limits."

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Printed and Published for the Freemason's Chronicle Publishing Company Limited, by Brother WILLIAM WRAY MORGAN, at 67 Barbican, E.C. Saturday, 13th February 1875.

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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. I.—No. 8. SATURDAY, 20th FEBRUARY 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

THE ULTRAMONTANES AND FREEMASONRY.

WE have had occasion recently to refer incidentally to the fiercely intolerant spirit with which the Ultramontane party in the Church of Rome regards the Masonic Brotherhood. The subject is an unpleasant one, and we have hesitated to go out of our way to discuss the question in detail. We hold firmly to the principles of toleration upon which the Fraternity is based, and we would not willingly say an unkind or harsh word of any of the creeds or parties into which the Christian Church is divided. The recent publication, however, of an important correspondence between the Secretary of the Protestant Educational Union and the Home Secretary, in reference to the refusal of a Roman Catholic priest to perform the last rites of religion over the grave of a Freemason, leaves us no option at all. We are challenged to fight for the truths we hold dear, and it is absolutely our duty to defend the Masonic body from the stigma which has been cast upon it. The Secretary of the Protestant Educational Union directs the attention of Mr. Hardy to the fact that the body of Armourer-Sergeant J. V. Johnson, who died in Fort Pitt Hospital, at Chatham, in February last, was denied Christian burial by the Roman Catholic Chaplain, the Rev. Michael Cuffe, on the ground that the deceased had been a Freemason. The rev. gentleman, in a letter to the *Times*, which is included in the recently published correspondence relating to the case, declares that "No Catholic can be a Freemason; the moment he becomes one he secedes from his Church." This dictum of the Ultramontane party has, on more than one occasion, been flouted in the faces of our Roman Catholic brethren, with the view of intimidating them. The Church, or rather an extreme section of the Church, has forced the Pope to declare war against Masonry, and the religious disfranchisement of those Catholics who have dared to enter the Order follows as a matter of course. We are, however, of opinion that the arbitrary decision of the authorities at Rome is regarded with contempt as well as hostility by all sensible and educated Catholics, who, whatever priests may say, are not disposed, in this country at least, to submit tamely to ecclesiastical tyranny. It has never been shown, by the most uncompromising foe of Masonry, that the principles of the Order are hostile to revealed religion. The Pope has launched his anathemas against us either without due inquiry, or he has ignored facts, and has determined to rivet his chains upon all who will submit, without offering one word of explanation for a course of conduct which might have resulted in serious consequences when emperors and kings trembled before the thunders of the Vatican, but which now, in these days of toleration and free discussion in the light of day, can only provoke laughter. In spite of all the terrors which Rome has in store for her rebellious children, the fact is patent that vast numbers of French Roman Catholics, and very many English ones, are members of the Order. These, our Roman Catholic brethren, are not conscious that, in becoming Masons, they have committed any sin against the religion of their fathers, nor are they at all inclined to admit they have placed themselves outside the pale of their church. In these views they will doubtless be supported by the more moderate of the ecclesiastics of the church, by those noble priests in Germany and France, who have protested against the insolent assumption of new powers by the incumbent of the papal chair, and in England by wise and far-seeing churchmen, who regard the present attitude of the Ultramontane party with no favourable eye. The attempt of this fanatical sect to reduce all the members of their communion to a condition of abject slavery has already been pushed to the most extreme length. Its most active apostles have endeavoured to efface all the distinctive ties of country and of allegiance, and the fundamental doctrine that the faithful are Catholics first, and afterwards citizens of the respective states to which they belong, has met with wide-spread opposition from the best lay intellect in the church. This dogma, pushed to its extreme consequences, would, as an eminent statesman has recently shown, deprive the State of the allegiance and the services of its Roman Catholic subjects whenever the Vatican might be in conflict with the secular power. Some of the most prominent of the English Roman Catholics have already publicly repudiated it, and thousands, whose opinions never get into the newspapers, have doubtless repudiated it in their hearts. The attempt to close the doors of the Temple of Freemasonry against the members of the Church of Rome indicates an amount of weakness which one would hardly expect from a powerful ecclesiastical corporation. The Church is either afraid to permit her children to mingle freely with men of varied creeds, or she dreads lest the pure atmosphere of toleration should be fatal to the dogmas upon which she mainly relies. The contact of a religious enthusiast with minds tolerably free from sectarian bias is indeed often fatal to individual idiosyncrasies, but the essence of religion is proof against all the assaults of the world, and we fearlessly assert that a devout Catholic, who holds to the broad principles of his creed, can never get aught but good from the instruction he receives in his Lodge. Masonry indeed contains the pith of Christianity. Its principles are as broad, as noble, and as elevating as those which lie at the basis of the churches. To relieve the suffering, to do good, to think no evil of any man, to love truth above all things, these dogmas of the Craft are identical with the teachings of Jesus. With the distinctive doctrine or the discipline of the Churches Masonry has nothing to do. It stands aloof from all churches, and the sacred floor of the Lodge is neutral ground for the Jew, the Turk and the Christian alike. Such toleration as this cannot but be favourable to the spread of principles in which Masons and Churchmen are alike interested. The Christian, if he does not forget the principles of the divine founder of his religion, is pledged to foster the growth of ideas which, were they universally held as vital truths, would make discord impossible in the civilised world. We are constrained, however, to think that the Ultramontane party are much more deeply interested in the spread of the dogmas which emanate from the Vatican than in those which were taught by Jesus at Jerusalem. It is not Christianity that they care for, but the maintenance of a system which, in opposition to the Gospel, seeks to make mankind serfs. The Truth that is designed to make men free, is replaced by priestly discipline, which binds the unthinking devotee hand and foot. The sage advice of Paul is impudently set aside, and, in place of teaching the laity to "prove all things," and "hold fast that which is good," the Ultramontane party demand submission without proof, and the rejection of any good thing which does not emanate from Rome.

We venture to deny the right of the Romish Church to exclude from its communion those of its flock who have assumed the responsibility of the Order of Freemasonry. The priest who dares lightly to stand between a Catholic and his hope of salvation, commits a crime against the religion he professes to uphold. He assumes a power for which

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he has no scriptural warrant, and he ignores the fact that the Craft was once recognised and fostered by his Church. The proud boast of *semper idem*, which was formerly paraded before the world has, we admit, been abandoned by the new school of Catholics, who welcome any change which will make the spiritual despot at Rome the lord and master of the minds of millions. But before we welcome the new face, which the Church, with Janus-like inconsistency, has turned upon the astonished world, we demand the authority upon which her spiritual advisers have acted. By what right does she attempt to close the portals of salvation against her Masonic sons? By what right does she now assume the power to curse the Order she once blessed and fostered? What warrant has she for the assumption that Masonry is hostile to her dogmas? Until these questions are answered, we shall assume that her policy, with regard to the Order, has been the result of the fanatic zeal of a sect, which, already in the pursuit of its wild theories, has placed the Church in a position of serious peril, the like of which can scarcely be matched in the whole of her long and eventful history.

THE MASON: A DISCREET MAN.

IN former articles we have endeavoured to show that a good Mason should be a gentleman, and a sincere man. It is not our intention to claim for him the possession of all the cardinal virtues. An overdrawn picture invariably has something grotesque in its appearance, which makes it laughable in the sight of men, and involves that of which it is meant to be the portrait in endless ridicule. We shall not, however, err in excess of colouring if we assign to him the not unimportant attribute of discretion. Scarcely a day passes but every member of the Craft must find himself called upon to exercise this virtue, and the higher his rank, the greater the estimation in which he is held by his brethren, the more imperative is it that he should be discreet. We may even go so far as to affirm, that though a Mason may be a gentleman and a sincere man—though he possess all the excellences which may reasonably be claimed for him—yet will he prove a poor exemplar for others to follow if he lack discretion.

We will not inflict on our readers a lengthy dissertation on the qualities of discretion, nor a dry analysis of the properties it possesses. It is not, perhaps, a very popular virtue; at least, it is not a very showy one, and does not excite a very great amount of enthusiasm. Thus, a few people may admire the discretion which Falstaff described as "the better part of valour," but the many deride it, and think it differs, in a slight degree only, from cowardice. Yet in no career is discretion more needed than in the military. To take a few cases that occur to us at the moment. MacMahon at Wöerth, doggedly contesting every inch of ground, till sheer weight of numbers drove him from the field, is a picture that excites our admiration; but MacMahon warily retreating before superior forces, to the passes of the Vosges, *reculant pour mieux sauter*, would have been still more admirable from a military point of view. Who knows, had he done so, but the tide of battle might have rolled towards Berlin, instead of, as it happened, towards Paris, and Napoleon III. died in the purple at the Tuileries instead of in exile at Chislehurst? Again, the charge of the Six Hundred at Balaclava always stirs the blood of Englishmen, yet, as was remarked at the time, "*C'était magnifique, mais ce n'était pas la guerre.*" Our own Wellington was among the most discreet of modern generals. He could be bold even to audacity, as at the passage of the Douro, at Cindad Rodrigo, at Badajoz; or discreet and wary, as in the retreat on Torres Vedras. On one occasion, we believe, with only a slender force of 15,000 men, he confronted the whole army of Marmont, not courting, yet not seeming to decline, the combat. In boldness lay discretion, and Marmont never knew till it was too late how narrowly he had missed the chance of crushing his formidable adversary. The fame of one old Roman general rests almost entirely on his discretion—we mean Fabius, surnamed Cunctator, of whom Ennius sang:

"Unus homo nobis cunctando restituit rem."

Again, the driver of the express train who, seeing an obstacle on the line a short distance ahead of him, crashed through it at full speed—he, undoubtedly, was a discreet man, and bold withal. The safety of the charge entrusted to his skill lay in a fearful speed, and he applied it. There was no hesitation, for there was no time to hesitate. The danger and the escape were almost simultaneous. These are a few of the instances that might be adduced in order to prove the value of discretion in times or cases of difficulty and danger. Happily Masons are a peaceful, not a militant body. Such examples may serve as a guide to the individual brother who follows the profession of arms, or the more peaceful but hardly less dangerous career of a civil engineer. The majority are men of peace, and the teachings of Masonry are essentially peaceful. What, then, is discretion from a Masonic point of view? The modest answer will raise a laugh perhaps, many even exclaiming, "*Parturiunt montes, nascetur ridiculus mus.*" We have nothing better to offer in the way of definition than this: Discretion is the faculty of always doing or saying the right thing at the right time in the right place. Very simple, yet very necessary and somewhat trying. Be it remembered that it is not always the grand occasions, when a man's nerves are probably well-strung, and his mind well prepared for what may happen, that try a man. It is not the occasional spurt which tests an athlete, but his powers of endurance and his skill in making his effort at the right moment. Now a Mason's faculty of discerning is always, so to speak, on trial. He is, as it were, a sentinel, always on guard over the obligations reposed in him. He must be always discreet, so as never, by word or sign, to betray the mysteries of his Order. In all his acts and deeds he should command the respect, not only of his brethren but of the outside world. For as a man, so will Masonry, which is an aggregate of men, be judged by its conduct, not by its professions. The proposal of new candidates for admission into the Order, without due inquiry whether they are worthy and respectable men, is a grave act of indiscretion, which a too confiding, too good-natured Brother should especially guard against. Again, the Fraternity prides itself, with good cause, on its charity, but indiscriminate charity is hurtful. To give without knowing whom you give to, and whether he is worthy to receive, is an abuse of charity. But still more incumbent is it on office holders to govern themselves discreetly. A W.M. may be learned, just and good, but he must also be discreet, or his Lodge will be chaos. The visitor must be tried and proven, not formally, and merely because it is "in the bond," but fully and truly, to the end that no uninitiate person gain entrance to a Lodge. All officers, in short, should be studious of their duties, or Masonry must suffer. Nor, again, should men seek office who are unequal to or unfitted for its responsibilities. An ill-educated, unrefined officer, however estimable in his character, were a reproach to the Brotherhood.

But not to weary our readers further on this subject, we cannot do better, perhaps, than conclude our article with a short extract from a work by an eminent Mason, a work to which we have already found and may again find it expedient to refer to—Dr. Oliver's *Revelations of a Square*. It bears directly on the matter of discretion, and especially on one of the points we have referred to, the too careless admission of visitors into a Lodge. We give it in outline, but in the words of the narrator, for no story, however carefully translated, reads half so well as in its original form.

"We had once a rich scene in our Lodge, during Bro. Dunckerley's mastership, which carries with it a useful lesson, and ought not to be disregarded," proceeded my gossiping companion. . . . "A stranger presented himself as a visitor, was examined and admitted. He proved to be of a respectable standing in society, although on the present occasion he lent himself to the perpetration of a very disreputable affair, and the R.W.M., with all his tact and discrimination, was very nearly outwitted. An ancient law of Masonry provided that no visitor, however skilled in the art, shall be admitted into a Lodge unless he is personally known to, or well vouched and recommended, by some of the brethren then present. Many occasions arose in which it had been deemed expedient to remit the strict observance of the rule, and such had been the case in the present instance. The intruder, however, had not occupied his precarious position more than five minutes, before a venerable brother called aloud, 'IT RAINS!'

"Bro. Dunckerley's presence of mind did not forsake him in this emergency, and he gravely demanded of the visitor, 'Where were you made a Mason?'

'The answer was at hand. 'In a Lodge, at the King's Head, Gravesend.'

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"This reply betrayed him. The brethren rose simultaneously from their seats, in some degree of unnecessary alarm, like a flock of sheep in the presence of a strange dog. Indeed, if the Wandering Jew had appeared among them *in propriâ personâ*, they would scarcely have exhibited a more urgent demand for his summary expulsion than was implied in the loud and universal murmurs of disapprobation which were heard from every part of the Lodge. The intruder was perplexed; he saw his error, but knew not the remedy: and when the R.W.M. quietly observed: 'Now, sir, will you be kind enough to favour us with your version of the story,' he replied in the language of Canning's Knife Grinder:—'Story!—God bless you!—I have none to tell! I was anxious to see a Lodge of Brethren at work, and one of your seceding members furnished me with answers to a few questions, which he said would be proposed in the Tyler's room, and for a frolic I was determined to test the truth, as, at the very worst, I could only be ejected, which I did not conceive would be either a disappointment or a disgrace; for, to say the truth, I scarcely expected to gain admittance into the Lodge.'

"What was to be done? The dilemma was pressing . . . . the delinquent was securely locked up in the preparing-room . . . The confusion . . . may carry some idea of the consternatian which ensued. All spoke together, and the reins of authority seemed to have been unnaturally snapped asunder; for the R.W.M. had retired with his Wardens behind the pedestal . . . One or two young members . . . jumped upon the benches . . . vociferating, 'Out with him! Down with the intruder! Turn him out!' Others were more moderate . . . And others. . . . were clamorous that the watch should be called in, and the intruder transferred to the roundhouse.

"Meanwhile, Bro. Dunckerley had matured his plan, and having ascended into the chair . . . . said, 'Brethren, I need not tell you that we are placed at this moment in a situation where a false step may involve not only this Lodge, but the entire Craft, in unknown difficulties. It was the maxim of Socrates,—it is well to punish an enemy, but it is better to make him your friend. Now we must not content ourselves with asking who examined him, or why he was admitted, for he is actually amongst us, and it is too late to prevent the intrusion. And if we were to adopt the worthy Brother's advice, who recommended him to be turned out, the matter would not be greatly mended; the principal difficulty would still remain. I conceive, therefore, that the wisest course we can pursue under these circumstances will be, to use our best endeavours towards converting this temporary evil into a permanent benefit, as the bee extracts honey from the most poisonous flowers, by transforming the unwelcome cowan into a worthy Mason. For this purpose I propose that, if his station of life be not objectionable, the provision of our bye-laws respecting the admission of candidates be suspended in this single instance, and that he be initiated on the spot.' The proposition was regularly seconded by the S.W., and was unanimously agreed to, and the intruder was again introduced by the senior E.A.P. . . . . The R.W. then first examined him, as to his residence, trade, and respectability of character; and these inquiries being satisfactorily disposed of, the question was proposed whether he would adopt the alternative of being made a Mason to avoid the disgrace of being posted as an impostor.

"He said nothing could be more acceptable to his wishes. In fact, it was the very proposal he intended to make himself, as an atonement for his error, and a means of wiping away his disgrace. He accordingly received the first degree, and not only proved an excellent and zealous Mason, but in due course rose to the chair of the Lodge."

Such cases are little likely to occur, but if they should, or, indeed, in any emergency, let us hope we may be able to exhibit the same presence of mind, the same tact and discretion as did Br. Dunckerly.

COMMERCE AND CIVILISATION.

THE producing power of a country is the very best evidence of its intellectual and physical capability. It may with truth be declared that, during the last century, no nation in Europe has so largely developed its industry, and proved its great productive power, as England. In 1764, James Watt, a native of Greenock, in Scotland, began his improvements in the steam engine, whereby the foundation was laid for the prodigious advance in wealth and population which marked the reign of George III. By the aid of machinery, of which the steam engine is the chief moving power, it is estimated that an individual can now produce 200 times more goods than he could in 1775. Although the labours of Watt are almost unnoticed in the general history of the period, they have proved of more importance to society than all the contemporary transactions of war and diplomacy in which Europe was involved at that time.

In 1767, an ingenious person, Mr. James Hargreaves, a carpenter, at Blackburn, invented the spinning jenny, the first of a series of mechanical improvements in the cotton manufacture. The jenny was applicable only to the spinning of cotton for weft, being unable to give to yarn that degree of fineness and hardness which is required in the warp. This deficiency was soon after supplied by the invention of the spinning frame — that wonderful piece of machinery, which spins a vast number of threads of any degree of fineness or hardness. The inventor of this extraordinary contrivance was Mr. Richard Arkwright, a native of Preston, and by trade a barber. Living in a manufacturing district, his attention was drawn to mechanical operations carrying on around him. The difficulties he encountered were great, both from want of capital and practical skill in mechanics. At last he obtained pecuniary aid, and built a factory, but was eventually driven from Lancashire by fear of violence from those who had earned their living by the old method of spinning; he then removed to Nottingham. In 1769 he obtained a patent for spinning with rollers, and in 1771 he took out a second patent for a new system of carding and roving by machinery. In 1786 Mr. Arkwright was knighted, and in the following year he was high sheriff of Derbyshire. About the same time the Rev. Mr. Cartwright invented the power-loom. These inventions have had an immense influence on the industry of the country. In consequence of their introduction, the price of cotton goods has been greatly reduced, but, as the demand has been vastly extended by their cheapness, the quantity produced, and the number of persons employed are greater now than at any former time. The removal of taxes upon food has proved a large aid to commerce, and must ever have a tendency to civilisation. When all the hard earnings of the mechanic and the labourer are expended upon the physical needs of the human frame little elevation of character can be expected. Warm and decent articles of clothing, suitable to the seasons and climate in which we live, ought to be at the command of all, and none more so than those whose lot it is to labour with both head and hands. The statistical returns of the country show an immense increase in our commercial exchanges during the last thirty years. In 1844 we imported six hundred and forty-six million pounds of cotton, while in 1873 we imported one thousand five hundred and twenty-seven million pounds. The home consumption of this article in 1844 was five hundred and ninety-eight million pounds, while in 1873 it had increased to the enormous amount of one thousand three hundred million pounds. Who can calculate the sum of human happiness and general comfort that this one branch of British commerce has afforded to the sons and daughters of England? And, as a further illustration of the general prosperity of the country, it will be found that our exports and imports in 1840 were £172,132,716, and in 1873 £682,282,137, thus showing that in the year 1840 the value of exports and imports was per head of the whole population of the United Kingdom £6 10s, while in the year 1873 they had increased to £21 4s 9d per head. These are facts that demonstrate the mighty power of the industry and intellects of the nation, and make manifest to all reflecting minds that commerce is the handmaid of civilisation and the herald of human progress. The policy and duty of England should be to hold free intercourse, commercial and social, with all nations, binding them to us by mutual ties of interest and friendship. Let the advocates of liberty and peace continue their efforts, and they will thereby aid in breaking down the war spirit of the nation, which is now absorbing the wealth and industry of millions, crippling the hands of commerce, and checking the onward march of civilisation. With the principles of peace must spread the principles of liberty, and then mankind will be ruled by moral power instead of physical force, and rise to a mental standard when fear and force will be subjected by the angel of Civilisation, who will hoist her

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banner, and proclaim to the world her great and glorious mission.

INDIFFERENT MASONS.

From *Le Monde Maçonnique* of December 1874.

TRANSLATION:

AMONG Freemasons indifference to the duties and efforts of the grand Institution to which they have sworn to lend their aid is worse than a grave error; it is a desertion in the very face of the enemy—a true act of treason. Devoted to the inquiry after Truth and the conquest of Justice, Masonry, in spite of the violence and gross enmity of which it has been the object, is ever struggling with energy against error, prejudices and superstition, against oppression and deceit. In such a work it has a right to look for support to all who seek an asylum at its hearth and are anxious for enlightenment from its teaching. But this assistance, in order to be useful and efficacious, must be active and thorough. No soft-heartedness is possible; no lukewarmness tolerable. Eager and earnest permissible hearts can alone be really serviceable to our grand and fraternal Association.

As inconsistent Masons, so indifferent Masons have done Freemasonry all the harm they possibly could without actually destroying it. It is these who paralyze our efforts and render them futile. It is these who make our Lodges empty and who keep aloof those who would prove the earnest and fittest defenders of our cause. It is this indifference, which, passing on from one spot to another, freezes the hearts of the Brethren, extinguishes our enthusiasm, and surrounds us with that cold atmosphere which paralyzes the strongest will. An indifferent Mason is not only a useless member of our Craft, he is hurtful, corrupting, by his noxious influence, all who surround him, and impeding the due performance of our labours. He is a true paralytic, almost indeed a corpse, which we are dragging after us and which hinders and delays all our movements.

Nothing that interests our fellows, nothing that can in any way contribute to the amelioration of their lot and the development of their intellectual and moral faculties, should be indifferent to men of feeling, and more especially to Masons, whose obligations are greater, and who, having entered our Order freely and unconstrainedly, have duties devolving upon them, all the more important that they have been contracted freely. In the meantime, the number of indifferent brethren appears for some time past to have been continuously increasing. Whence arises this abnormal state of things? Clearly from several and various causes.

The excuses which go to justify the unjustifiable neglect of Masonic duties are—"Powerlessness of Masonry to fulfil its programme, the senselessness of its aims, the futility and barrenness of its labours"—wretched arguments which only re-act on those who use them; for if Masonry is powerless, its objects vain, its labours barren and of no effect, we can only, in reason, lay the blame on the half-heartedness and indifference of its workmen. We must seek then elsewhere the true causes of the evil which gives us so much concern.

In our opinion indifferent Masons may be classed under three chief categories. 1. Those who, having entered the Order with an exaggerated idea of the influence and power of Masonry, have experienced discouragements, and discovered the error of their views. These, the natural bent of their minds, induces them to exaggerate, just as they had done their early aspirations.

2. Those who, having entered young into our Order, have dispelled or lost, in the varying struggles of life, all their hopes and the noble sentiments which animated their youth.

3. The ambitious vulgar, who only joined Masonry in order to seek a protection which it was impossible to give them.

Of these three categories, the first may easily be recalled to a more rational way of viewing their position; the second, though almost incurable, deserves our pity. As to the third, incorrigible and incapable of inspiring us with the slightest interest we can only urge on the brethren who compose it to renounce at once and for ever their title to be regular Masons. A sense of honour forbids them to remain any longer members of a body which they discourage by exhibiting towards its labours the most intense disdain.

To these three classes of indifferent brethren we might have added a fourth, more numerous still, which comprises of those Masons who are always ready to be guided by the influence of those who surround them; but we have thought it better not to insist too strongly on the weakness of such Brethren, but to encourage them by good example to re-awaken their zeal and become once again really useful and active members of the Craft.

Indifference, adding its ravages to those inflicted by the late war has, during the last four years especially, weakened French Masonry. Our Lodges have been partially deserted, and notwithstanding the efforts of the most devoted members, the duties languish and are unproductive. Against the dangers which such a position involves, it is the duty of all who are sincerely attached to our Institution to combat with the utmost energy.

The general elections have recently taken place in all the district Lodges. May the newly elected officers signalise their accession to power by a merciless war against this mortal enemy of our great family. May they pursue, unrelentingly, even to its last retrenchments, and afford in all circumstances, to the lukewarm and hesitating, the comforting example of zeal and activity. All well disposed men are ready to give their efforts, to labour earnestly with them to restore to our Lodges the life and energy which are deserting them. In this work of restoration, hesitation is impossible, devotion will not fail of its influence. And since indifference is, of all the dangers which menace us, the greatest and most pressing, let us, at this moment, and everywhere throughout French Masonry, have but one thought, but one aim, but one rallying cry:—"*Guerre à l'indifference!*" (Signed) *Caudet.*

NEW MASONIC HALL AT BRIDLINGTON.

On the 11th inst. the members of the "Londesborough" Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, at Bridlington, had the long-looked for pleasure of laying the foundation stone of their new Masonic Hall, for which purpose a dispensation had been granted by the Earl of Zetland, the Prov. Grand Master of North and East Yorkshire. It was not intended that any great amount of public display should be made in connection with the event; and with this understanding no invitations were issued to the other Lodges to join in the ceremony. But, notwithstanding this wish, and despite the chilly influences of the weather, a large concourse of people were attracted by the novelty of the ceremonial, which excited the utmost interest, both in the old town and at the Quay. The provision of this more suitable and convenient place of meeting, which is to be completed in three months, is mainly to be attributed to the zeal and liberality of the Worshipful Master of the year, Mr. W. H. Porritt, who organised a bazaar not long since in aid of this very laudable object. When completed, the new Hall will form an ornament to the place, and prove of immense convenience, not only to resident brethren, but also to the many visitors who sojourn at this favourite watering-place in such numbers during the summer months. The brethren assembled at their Lodge-room, at Bridlington Quay, at two o'clock in the afternoon, where, after the usual preliminaries had been gone through, a procession was formed, headed by the private band which has been established in connection with the Lodge. On their arrival at the site, in St. John's Avenue, the brethren formed in a circle around the foundation stone, and the ceremonial was performed by the W. Bro. John Pearson Bell, M.D., P.G.D. of England, and Deputy Prov. Grand Master of North and East Yorkshire, who opened the proceedings by delivering the antient address. The chaplain (Rev. Bro. Chillman) and brethren then repeated alternately the verses of the psalm, "Except the Lord build the house," after which a number of coins were deposited by the treasurer in the cavity of the lower stone. The secretary having read the inscription upon the plate, which was duly fixed, the W.M. presented the trowel and gavel to the W. Bro. Dr. Bell, who performed the ceremony, the band playing "Rule Britannia." The trowel was handsomely chased and engraved, with ivory handle, and on the blade was the following inscription, together with Dr. Bell's crest:—

"Presented to the W. Bro. J. P. Bell, Esq., M.D., P.G.D. of England and D.P.G.M. of N. and E. Yorkshire, on the occasion of laying the foundation stone of the Londesborough Lodge, No. 734, Bridlington Quay, February 11, 1875."

The Stone having been laid, and its position tested in the usual form, the W.M. Bro. Porritt declared that the Craftsmen had done their duty, and the W. Bro. Dr. Bell pronounced that it had been properly laid, according to the antient rules of Masonry. Corn wine, and oil, having been placed on the stone, in accordance with usage, the chaplain offered up prayer in the prescribed form, and the plan was then handed by the architect to the W. Bro. Dr. Bell, who delivered the concluding address. The band then played the National Anthem, after which the brethren returned in procession to the Lodge-room, where the Lodge was closed in due form. After the ceremony the W.M. invited a party of those who had taken a leading position in the proceedings of the day to luncheon at his residence, where mutual congratulations where exchanged at the eminently successful and satisfactory auspices under which the interesting event had taken place.

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REVIEWS.

All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, 67 Barbican, E.C.

—:o:—

Shakespeare Commentaries. By Dr. G. G. Gervinus, Professor at Heidelberg. Translated, under the author's superintendence, by F. E. Bunnétt. New Edition, revised by the translator. London: Smith, Elder and Co., 15 Waterloo-place.

FIRST NOTICE.

It is truer of Shakespeare than of any other great poet of any age or nation that the more intently you study him, the more you find in him to study. The scholar seldom takes up one of his plays or poems but he finds some new beauty dawn upon his mind, some fresh evidence of the poet's exalted genius to intensify his respect and admiration. But though this truth is, and long has been recognised in England, almost a century elapsed after Shakespeare's death ere his countrymen began to obtain a clear insight into his unrivalled powers. The unsettled times of Charles I. and the Commonwealth, the frivolous taste of the period that followed the Restoration of Charles II., together with the troubles of the Revolutionary era and the dulness of Dutch William's reign will in great measure account for this apathy. True, a complete edition of this great dramatist appeared in 1623, seven years after he had died, and was republished in 1632, but it was not till the time of Anne that any further attempt was made to publish a fresh edition of his works or to gather materials for his biography. To Nicholas Rowe belongs the honour of having ventured on this task, and his example was speedily followed by others at intervals more or less frequent, the result being that, in the course of somewhat more than the next hundred years, Englishmen, by the aid of such men as Pope, Warburton, Johnson, Steevens, Chalmers, and other critics had gradually learned to admire, if not fully to appreciate the beauty and grandeur of the greatest of their poets. Since then, the labour of criticism has gone on ever more and more assiduously. Shakespeare societies have been formed, innumerable commentaries have appeared, while on the stage frequent and often highly successful attempts have been made to familiarise the British public with the best of his dramas. Yet, in spite of societies, commentators, and actors, England owes it to the German school of critics rather than to her own that Shakespeare is so fully appreciated, intellectually, as he is now-a-days. With a few exceptions, the English commentators have limited their efforts to learned and discreet analyses of single characters, to able expositions of textual difficulties, or to clearing up, as far as possible, the meaning of obscure words or passages, or allusions. The labours of German commentators have embraced a far wider field. They have taken his plays seriatim, viewing each of them as a whole, perfect in all its parts and in the inter-relation of its several characters and incidents. They have studied these with infinite care, and have deduced from them an elaborate series of æsthetic and ethical studies which are in the highest degree valuable. Lessing, Schlegel, and, in the volume before us, Gervinus, each of these in turn has analysed Shakespeare in this spirit. The latter, indeed, in his introduction has so well expressed the different character of the German and English studies of Shakespeare—ascribing nearly if not the chief honour among the former to Schlegel—that we cannot do better than quote a portion of his remarks.

"With us the reverse of that which had happened in England in the eighteenth century now ensued. We wrote no critical notes upon the poet; wanting the materials, we wanted also the vocation for the task. We translated him; and while the English possess a series of editions, we have, from Wieland and Eschenburg to Schlegel and Voss, and even down to the disciples of Tieck and many subsequent stragglers, a number of translations, ever newly issued and ever newly read. If in the English editions the annotations almost concealed the text, these translations gave us, for the most part, the text without any notes. This has accustomed us to another manner of reading the poet. While the Englishman lingered, perhaps, on isolated passages, we, on the contrary, destitute of all explanations, read rapidly on; we were careless about parts, and, compared to the English reader, we lost many separate beauties and ideas, but we enjoyed the whole more fully. For this enjoyment we were chiefly indebted to the translation of A. W. Schlegel, which even Englishmen read with admiration. The archaisms are here erased, the rough words of the period gently modified, yet the whole character is faithfully maintained. The sensibility of the German nature, the flexibility of our language, and the taste and mind of the translator, procure for this work equally great and lasting honour. More than any other effort on behalf of the English poet, this translation has made him our own. Admiration reached a fresh point, and this rather with us than in England; for it is to me beyond a doubt that the criticism of the old English editors, such as that of Courtenay's for example, not long ago, would have been quite impossible with us in Germany, even in one such exception."

And again:—

"However great were the merits of our Romanticists in having arranged Shakespeare's works for our enjoyment, even they have only slightly contributed to the inner understanding after which we seek, and to the unfolding of the human nature of the poet and the general value of his works. In A. W. Schlegel's 'Dramatic Lectures' (1812), the plays are singly discussed. All here testifies to poetic delicacy and sensibility; all is fair, alluring, inspiring; a panegyric of a totally different kind to the criticising characteristics of English expositors."

The author had also previously spoken of Goethe and his labours in these words:—

"In 'Wilhelm Meister' Goethe produced that characteristic of Hamlet which is like a key to all works of the poet; here all separate beauties are rejected, and the whole is explained by the whole, and we feel the soul of the outer framework and its animating breath, which created and organised the immortal work."

To our own Coleridge the author refers somewhat briefly, but he clearly regards him with admiration, as "he of all Englishmen first measured the poet by a true standard." "He declaimed," continues Gervinus, "against the French notion that in Shakespeare all was the emanation of a genius unconscious of himself; 'that he grew immortal, as it were, in his own despite;' he justly contended that his judgment was commensurate with his genius; that he was no wild *lusus naturæ*, and that this so-called 'irregularity' was only the dream of a few pedants.

"He advanced the assertion—then a bold one in England—that not merely the splendour of different parts constituted the greatness of Shakespeare, by compensating for the barbarous shapelessness of the whole, but that he considered the æsthetic form of the whole equally admirable with the matter, and the judgment of the great poet not less deserving our wonder than his innate genius. He (and since him Campbell and many other enthusiastic admirers) placed him quite out of comparison with other poets; he declared it an absurdity to prefer him seriously to Racine and Corneille, or to compare him with Spenser and Milton; to his mind he was so exalted above all, that he could only compare him with himself."

We have dwelt at some length on the distinctive feature of German criticism as compared with the bulk of English criticism, in order that our readers may form a clearer judgment of the character and merits of these Commentaries. Before, however, we go further into the work itself, it may be as well to draw attention to a very valuable introduction which is prefixed to the present edition. It is from the pen of Mr. J. F. Furnivall, Founder and Director of the New Shakspeare Society, the Chaucer Society, &c., &c., who, *en passant*, bears this testimony to the valuable labours of Gervinus:—

"The profound and generous 'Commentaries' of Gervinus—an honour to a German to have written, a pleasure to an Englishman to read—is still the only book known to me that comes near the true treatment and the dignity of its subject, or can be put into the hands of the student who wants to know the mind of Shakspeare."

Further on, Mr. Furnivall remarks:—

"What strikes me most in Gervinus is his breadth of culture and view, his rightness and calmness of judgment; his fairness in looking at both sides of a question; his noble earnest purpose; his resolve to get at the deepest meaning of his author, and his reverence and love for Shakespeare. No one can read his book without seeing evidence of a rare range of reading and study, rare indeed among Englishmen. . . . No one can fail to see how Gervinus, noble-natured and earnest himself, is able to catch and echo for us the 'still small voice' of Shakspere's hidden meaning even in the lightest of his plays. No Englishman can fail to feel pleasure in the heartfelt tribute of love and praise that the great historian of German literature gives to the English Shakspere."

This introduction is also important for the remarks it contains on the value of "Metrical Tests," in establishing the right succession of Shakespeare's plays—"a condition precedent" to following the growth of his mind; on the spurious portions of plays called Shakespeare's, and the use of these tests in detecting them; on the progressive changes in Shakespeare's language, imagery and thought; on the succession of his plays, and on the helps for studying them, on the last of which are mentioned the texts and commentaries which, in the opinion of Mr. Furnivall, are the best for the student's use.

Having said this much of the character of the work before us, and having quoted valuable testimony as to its merits, it is time we plunged into the work itself. The chapters to which we shall confine our further brief remarks on the present occasion are those which treat of "Shakespeare at Stratford," "Shakespeare's Descriptive Poems," "Shakespeare in London and on the Stage," "Dramatic Poetry before Shakespeare," and "The Stage."

In the first of these we have a necessarily brief outline of the poet's family and early life. So little, indeed, is known of Shakespeare's personal history, that the difficulty is to find any trustworthy materials for a biography. When Rowe, in 1709, essayed this task, hoping to glean something from tradition and other sources, "he found," says our author, "that scarcely anything was known of such a wonderful man; that even the originals of his writings were hardly preserved, and that all that could be gathered of his life was a couple of unvouched-for anecdotes, which, even at the present day, the most diligent inquiry has only been able to replace by a few authentic facts." What little there is to say, however, has been carefully collected and noted. Of the traditions [illegible] these remarks on "the history of the poet's youth."

"Little to be relied on has reached our knowledge, but sufficient to allow us to guess that his earliest experiences must have planted in his mind an abundance of deep impressions which may have subsequently become rich sources for his poetic creations. A course of misfortunes befell him, and he left his home at the period when passion sensibility, and imagination are strongest in men; he had to eat the bitter bread of tribulation, and to pass through the deep water of sorrow—that school of great minds and powerful characters. From his fourteenth year the old prosperity of his father's house was broken up, a stroke of misfortune befell his mother's family, the Ardens; his own indiscretion and self-created distress followed; and thus we see that he had not only to experience a season of adversity, but also one of indignity, which developed side by side his good and bad qualities." The facts are then passed in review.

The anecdote of Shakespeare's deer-stealing, apart from all circumstantial proofs, our author thinks "carries with it decided marks of a most characteristic trait." He thinks, moreover, it "may easily have been the most innocent part of his life." To the latter experiences of Shakespeare's married life the author gives credit,

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and fancies that, in searching through his works, "we meet with direct outbursts of feeling upon this portion of his history. Were the circumstances which accompanied his marriage the 'fore-bemoaned moan' upon which the poet looked back repentantly in his sonnets? Was it accident that just in his earlier dramas the pictures of bad imperious women, such as he never subsequently depicted, filled his fancy? that in Henry VI., when he retouched it, he gave such double force to the traits of character with which he had endowed the terrible wives of the King and Gloster, as if to unburden his own heavy heart? With how much true conviction, as out of self-drawn experience, he utters the warning in "Twelfth Night" (II. 4)—

Let the woman take
An elder than herself; so wears she to him,
So sways she level in her husband's heart."

The next chapter treats of his descriptive poems, "Venus and Adonis," and "Lucrece," of which we are told, "everything betrays that they were written in the first passion of youth." Then follow accounts of "Dramatic Poetry before Shakespeare," and "The Stage," to which, having regard to present considerations of space, we refer our readers themselves. Suffice it to say that the state of the drama before, and in the days of Shakespeare, is fully and impartially described, and that any of our readers to whom this portion of the history of English literature is comparatively obscure will find much profit from a careful study of the author's exposition. In our next, we shall deal with one or more of the plays of Shakespeare, as handled in these pages, so that our readers may be in a better position of the value of Mr. Furnivall's eulogisms on the merits of the author.

Antient and Primitive Rite of Masonry in and for the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and its Dependencies. Sovereign Sanctuary 33—90°. *Peace, Tolerance, Truth. Salutation on all points of the triangle.**

A CIRCULAR of three pages, with this title and a hieroglyphic head-piece, is not a promising subject for review. It has, nevertheless, been sent to us for that purpose. As principal Officer, or Most Illustrious Grand Master General, we find mentioned "I.U. Bro. John Yarker (P.M. of all Orders);" and as this brother is the author of the *Notes on the Mysteries of Antiquity*, which we reviewed last week, we are led to associate the two productions.

Sincere Masons can hardly view with pleasure a multiplication of rites, however *high-falutin'*. If we are not mistaken, the obligation accepted by brethren affiliated to the Ancient and Accepted Rite, whose head-quarters are at Golden Square, will preclude them from participation in the mysteries over which Bro. Yarker ably presides.

The Circular states that the Rite in America was originally constituted in 1856; that it works 33 degrees, embracing Jewish, Chivalric and Egyptian Masonry; that the third section contains the Hermetic degrees, and deals with "high philosophy" and religious myth—(here is certainly a Transatlantic smack.) Its decorations are—the grand Star of Sirius—the decoration of Alidee—that of Grand Commander—the Lybic Chain—the decoration of Eleusis.

Bro. Yarker's *Notes* took away our breath, which we with difficulty recovered; and now our heart sinks under a sense of utter unworthiness and incompetency. Sirius—Alidee—Eleusis—Lybia! Hermes, Simon Magus and Cagliostro—ye have not lived in vain! For aught we can tell, the Most Illustrious Grand Master General, applying the Brahminical secret of invisibility, may be even now at our elbow; may, like the great Du Potet, envelope us in a mesmeric wave from his resistless will, and draw us *nolens volens* to unspeakable things. If Bro. Yarker will promise us—the "powder of projection"—mastery of the "emerald tablet"—power to make diamonds and to operate the "palingenesia of plants, we will consider the possibility of resisting all lower attractions, to devote ourselves to contemplation of "*Peace, Tolerance and Truth*" in the bosom of his Sovereign Sanctuary.

Debrett's Peerage and Baronetage and Knightage. London: Dean and Son, St. Dunstan's Buildings, 160A Fleet Street, E.C.

THESE works, which have been published annually for more than one hundred and sixty years, are simply invaluable. What happened in the days of the second Charles, Dutch William or good Queen Anne, when Debretts were not, it is impossible, nor were it, perhaps, very material to say. It is certain that the memories of Lord Chamberlains and Gentlemen Ushers must have been very long and trustworthy, or they would never have performed their duties, of ushering in and marshalling men of rank, with anything like satisfaction. Now-a-days our titled folk are so numerous that such books as these are absolutely necessary in every gentleman's library. Suffice it that for size, appearance, variety and excellence of information, no publications we know of surpass Debrett.

The Civil Service Year Book and Official Calendar 1875. London: Office of *The Civilian*, 8 Salisbury Court, Fleet Street, E.C.

THE editors of this useful calendar have made some amends for the tardiness of its appearance by the valuable character of the material they have collected. Everything relating to the organisation of the Service, its institutions, and the competitive and other examinations, which must be passed before candidates are admissible, have been brought within the modest compass of about 100 pages. That this matter is good is beyond doubt, and the delay, perhaps, is excusable, as details of the Playfair Commission's report could not have been included. Civil Servants will find this book of infinite value for purposes of general reference.

* *Bromley, Brydges and Strange.* 1873.

CORRESPONDENCE.

All Letters must bear the name and address of the Writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.

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"A FEW WORDS ON AMERICAN MASONRY."

("FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE," No. 1, 2ND JANUARY 1875.)

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In your "leader" on the above subject is the following, "No country is more lavish of outlay on Masonic architecture, witness the magnificent Temples of Boston, Philadelphia, and New York; in fact, in nine-tenths of American towns and cities the Masonic Hall is, *par excellence, the* Hall. No country is more ostentatious of parade, glitter, show and extravagance, *vide* accounts of Masonic inaugurations, processions, and celebrations. Yet, where are the Masonic Charities, Benevolent Institutions, Widows' Funds, Orphans' Home, and Schools? Echo answers—would it be possible for an echo to reach us from across the Atlantic?"

I desire, to say a few words respecting the foregoing, and especially as to your assertions, which have, in my opinion, been made without full enquiry, or under a misapprehension of the facts; and though my remarks will be brief, yet I trust the facts submitted will be sufficient to prove that American Freemasonry is not quite in the lamentable position you assume.

1. As to "outlay and Masonic architecture" the "new country" is much ahead of the "old," and so that may be taken as indicative of the hearty co-operation of the American fraternity in seeking to provide Homes and Temples worthy of the Craft, and suitable for the working of our solemn ceremonies.

2. "No country is more ostentatious of parade, glitter, show and extravagance." On this point, perhaps it is as well to say but little, especially as it may resolve itself into a *matter of opinion*, but if the annual processions of our Prov. Grand Lodges are considered, and the inauguration of new Lodges by Prov. Grand Masters—Bodies and Officers unknown in the United States Masonically—I doubt even if this statement can be substantiated, especially also if it be taken into account that in the United States alone there are about eight times as many subscribing members as in this country, and consequently some more processions may fairly be expected in the one country than in the other.

3. "Where are the Masonic Charities, Benevolent Institutions, Widows' Funds?" &c. &c.

Had it not been for the latter question, you would not have been troubled with this communication, and while it comes late in the day, owing to numerous engagements, I hope it will be in time to remove any erroneous impression on your mind, or those of your readers on the subject.

From the question being unanswered, I presume you consider there are no Masonic charities worthy of the name in the *United States*, and hence *that*—if true—would be your justification for observing that "the abuses and prostitutions of Masonry, have long been a standing reproach to our Translantic brethren, and a cause of regret to every true and zealous member of our ancient Brotherhood throughout the world."

I have not the necessary time, neither am I able to present an abstract of the total amounts of the funds employed in the sacred cause of Masonic charity in the United States; but ere long I hope some competent brother will do so. In many respects the disbursements on this head by the Grand Lodges are not at all a fair indication of the aid rendered to the distressed Mason, the lonely widow, and the unfortunate fatherless children, because the Lodges generally—so far as my knowledge extends—have much larger sums available for charities than we have, the membership on an average in the Lodges being greater in America than in England, and the Lodges fewer in number in proportion to the number of members, added to which still more care is exercised in the granting of warrants than under our Grand Lodge. In fact the supervision exercised by Grand Lodges over Lodges under "dispensation," prior to the warrants being granted, members only being allowed to belong to *one* Lodge, and the motives for seeking to leave the Parent Lodge, being so scrutinized that the system would prove quite unworkable in this country, and an intolerable bore, though doubtless it would be much for the benefit of our Grand Lodges, were even a modification of the plan made available for Great Britain and Ireland.

I deny the inference intended to be deduced from your question, because on examination of the facts you will find that, *Masonically*, the United States' Grand Lodges are warm hearted supporters of "Faith, Hope, Charity," and especially "the greater of these—Charity." In proof, thereof, let me select three instances only, and then I have done!

(*a*) The Grand Lodge of Kentucky has a "Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home," the grand Building being all but complete. When ready it will accommodate 500 children. Please note the capacity of the Building, which, if I mistake not, will prove equal in size and accommodation to the buildings of our Royal Masonic Institutions for Girls, Boys, and aged Freemasons combined! The inmates at present number 155. Doubtless the number will shortly be extended to 200. for the Grand Lodge of Kentucky at its last session donated the handsome sum of 78,000 dollars (about £15,600!!)

In the words of the editor of the *Masonic Review*, "*This* is *doing*, not saying."

(*b*) In the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, the substantial charities connected with the Craft are varied and of the most beneficial character. The "Stephen Girard Charity Fund," for the relief of poor and respectable brethren, "is now about 60,000 *dollars* (about £12,000), and the Grand Lodge Charity Fund for the relief of poor and respectable widows and orphan children, and the mothers and

unmarried sisters of Brother Master Masons," amounts to upwards of 70,000 dollars (£14,000). These amounts represent the invested funds, and do not include in any way the aid rendered by the individual Lodges, several of which are in a most healthy condition, and dispense their charities in a most princely manner.

(*c*) To cite another instance *out of many* I could mention, let me notice the "Louisiana Relief Lodge, No. 1, New Orleans. I leave out the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana entirely, and simply refer to a Lodge chartered for the purpose—unique and most Masonic—of "taking from the hands of its constituent Lodges the labour of investigating necessarily appertaining to all applications for charity, from worthy Master Masons, their widows or orphans, hailing from other jurisdictions, to afford prompt relief to worthy cases of suffering and destitution—to see the sick properly cared for—to give decent interment to those who die in our midst—in short to properly distribute this charity with Masonic circumspection, through one thoroughly organized channel, and to detect, register, and expose impostors and the unworthy."

In *eighteen* years the following relief has been granted by the above body:—

	Dollars.	£
Brethren of other United States Jurisdictions	25,507	5,100
Widows and Orphans do. do.	6,756	1,351
Brethren of Foreign Jurisdictions	6,308	
Widows and Orphans do.	2,117	8,425 1,685
Tombs, Funerals, &c. &c. for the above	9,783	1,956
Brethren of Louisiana	1,125	
Widows and Orphans do.	862	1,987 397
General Expenses	2,640	528
	55,098	11,017

Thus over £11,000 were devoted to the charitable objects for which the Relief Lodge was founded in eighteen years. The period includes that of the *civil war*, and for the last nine years the contributions have been purely voluntary. It should also be mentioned a goodly proportion of the amount distributed to the Brethren hailing from other jurisdictions in the United States have been refunded, but after all needful deductions, we find that the Lodges in New Orleans (city), who support the Relief Lodge, have voted for that purpose in the period named the sum of 16,000 dollars, or £3,200, and from that amount Brethren from the Grand Lodge of England who have been worthy of aid have been relieved to the extent of 653 dollars*; Ireland 709 dollars; and Scotland 909 dollars; a much larger sum than the Grand Lodge has, through its Fund of Benevolence, given to all the unfortunate American Brethren petitioning for relief in the *same period!* Need I say more than leave the matter in your hands to be set right?

Fraternally yours, WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

Truro, 13th February 1875.

P.S.—In No. 1 of the *Masonic Magazine* (George Kenning, London) I have given a sketch of the "Relief Lodge," *New Orleans*.

THE LIFEBOAT ENDOWMENT.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In reply to a letter published in your columns of the 13th inst., signed "Lets Bonac," I have to remark that the amount mentioned in P.M. Gottheil's letter in yours of the 16th January was duly acknowledged in the *Freemason*, therefore I did not reply to the remarks of "W. M." upon the subject.

I thank "Lets Bonac" for his kind consideration of my health, and beg to state that it is not my intention of retiring from a movement of which I am the pioneer, at the same time I shall be happy to meet any number of brethren with the view of organising a committee to carry out the movement, and shall be glad to deposit the amount I hold for the endowment of the "Freemasons' Lifeboat," into the hands of an appointed Treasurer, conditionally that all monies received for the purpose be deposited in the London and Westminster Bank, in the names of the President, Treasurer, and Hon. Secretary, and the receipts of same to be produced by the Treasurer at each meeting.

I suggested this at the first meeting of the Lifeboat Committee, which was carried out by

Yours fraternally, SOLOMON DAVIS.

[We have received a second letter from Bro. Davis, but as it refers to a private matter between him and another member of the Craft, we must ask him kindly to excuse us publishing it.—ED. FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.]

OLD LONDON TAVERNS ASSOCIATED WITH MASONRY.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—It may not be uninteresting to some of the brethren to learn that, in addition to those Taverns mentioned in the article on above, in your issue of the 13th inst., there is another "King's Arms" intimately associated with our Brotherhood, as will be seen by the following advertisement, which appeared in the *Times*, dated October 3rd 1798 (the year the Boys' Institution was established).

"Masonic Charity for Cloathing and Educating the Sons of Indigent Freemasons, according to the old Institutions.

"A general meeting of the subscribers to this Institution will be held at the 'King's Arms,' Green Bank, Wapping, on Friday next, the 5th day of October inst., at 6 o'clock in the evening, in order to receive twelve children into this Charity.

"(Signed,) J. Montefiore, Attorney at Law, Secretary."

"Sampson's Garden, October 1st 1798."

As you mention the "King's Arms" at which Grand Lodge met in 1721 as being situated *perhaps in Bow Street*, may I suggest that it might possibly have been the one mentioned in above advertisement.

I remain, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally, J. H. THORN.

Bow, E. 18th February 1875.

* Excluding proportion of expenses, tombs, &c.

THE DRAMA.

Lady Audley's Secret—A Midsummer Night's Dream—She Stoops to Conquer—The Maid's Tragedy—More Revivals—Mrs. Howard Paul and Mr. Walter Pelham.

BURLESQUE and melodrama may be said to stand at the opposite poles of the Drama, and it is very seldom that they come to be united in the same programme. This, however, has been accomplished by the enterprising management of the GLOBE THEATRE. *Lady Audley's Secret*, a melodrama of melodramas, and *Blue Beard*, surely the most extravagant of burlesques, are now being performed nightly at this theatre, with the success which invariably attends the performances of Miss Thompson's company. Most people are acquainted with Miss Braddon's thrilling story, and not a few old playgoers will remember the first production of Mr. Robert's play at the St. James's Theatre, when Miss Herbert played the *rôle* of Lady Audley, and Miss Ada Dyas made her first great hit in the character of Phœbe Marks. The title *rôle* is one susceptible of powerful treatment by an artiste capable of comprehending and pourtraying alike the most ungovernable passion and the lightest of light comedy. It is such a part as Mrs. Charles Matthews would have loved to play, and Miss Herbert was one of the few other actresses who could render full justice to its varied shades. Miss Louisa Moore, who has, in the present revival, been selected to play the heroine, has hardly the physique for the character. In the lighter moods she is excellent, but her tragic passages are wanting in intensity. Her return to the stage is very welcome just now, for we have very few actresses on the stage who can pourtray the playful side of comedy with ease and grace. Mr. Lionel Brough is cast for the part of Marks, and he contrives to throw into it a considerable amount of rugged humour. Phœbe Marks is played by Miss Kathleen Irwin, who displays in this impersonation an amount of dramatic power which those who have seen her only in comedy or burlesque would hardly credit her with possessing. It is a thousand pities that on the English stage there are no means of achieving anything like popularity without passing through a degrading apprenticeship of burlesque. Mrs. Bancroft, Miss Cavendish, Miss Foote and Miss Robertson have all had to take their turn in this inane order of comedy, and doubtless there are many ladies at the present time playing short-skirted parts in burlesques that are eminently capable of sustaining characters of serious interest, if only the opportunity be afforded them. The other characters in the piece do not call for much comment. Sir Michael Audley is played very fairly by Mr. Granger, Mr. Ireland appears as Robert Audley, and Mr. H. R. Teesdale sustains the character of George Talboys.

The Merry Wives of Windsor at the GAIETY has now given place to *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Mr. Phelps appears, of course, in his old part of Bottom the weaver. Not a few of the admirers of Mr. Phelps look upon this as his best part, and it is certainly one in which he has never been approached by any other actor of his time. Mr. J. P. Harley, who played the character in the Charles Kean revival at the PRINCESS'S was unanimously pronounced inferior to Mr. Phelps, and scarcely any other actor of the present generation has attempted the *rôle*. The other parts are fairly sustained, and the performance generally is creditable to the management.

At the HOLBORN AMPHITHEATRE Mr. Hollingshead has ventured to produce *The Maid's Tragedy*, of Beaumont and Fletcher. Mr. Ryder sustains the character of Amintor, and Mr. Pennington that of Melantius, but some other of the parts are not so well filled. It is gratifying, however, to find at the present day a manager bold enough to rely on Beaumont and Fletcher for the chief attraction of a theatrical performance.

At the Opera-Comique, too, another of Mr. Hollingshead's ventures, we have to notice a change in the programme. *She Stoops to Conquer*, is now the chief item of the bill of fare. Miss Robertson appears to excellent advantage in the part of Miss Hardcastle, the comedy of every scene being rendered with admirable humour and effect. Mr. Kendal plays Young Marlow, Mr. Maclean Old Hardcastle, and Mr. Alfred Nelson Hastings, whilst the character of Tony Lumpkin is essayed by Mr. Arthur Cecil, with only a moderate degree of success. The performance, as a whole, is an exceedingly pleasant one, and may be cordially commended to the frequenters of theatres.

Rebecca has been revived at Drury Lane, to supplement the pantomime, and *The New Magdalen* is being played at CHARING CROSS. Where are our dramatic authors, that so many stock pieces should have to be revived?

On Monday evening last the celebrated Mrs. Howard Paul, aided by Brother W. F. Taunton, who has, for professional purposes, assumed the name of Walter Pelham, gave an entertainment at the Corn Exchange, Coventry. Nearly two thousand persons were present, and hundreds went away because they could not find room. Mrs. Paul's powers of voice, song and imitation were deservedly received with raptures of applause. They were grand, impressive and entertaining. Mr. Walter Pelham's powers of mimicry were received and acknowledged by the audience with great enthusiasm. It has been said that a prophet has no honour in his own country—Mr. W. F. Taunton cannot say so, for no man could have experienced a more hearty and genial reception from his fellow townsmen.

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THE THEATRES, &c.

COVENT GARDEN.—This evening, at 7.0, THE VIVANDIERE. At 7.45, THE BABES IN THE WOOD.

DRURY LANE.—REBECCA and ALADDIN.

HAYMARKET.—A FAIR ENCOUNTER, HOME and THE SERIOUS FAMILY.

ADELPHI.—At 7.0, UNCLE TOM'S CABIN, LIEUT.-COLE'S ENTERTAINMENT and THE CHILDREN IN THE WOOD.

PRINCESS'S.—At 7.0, THE LANCASHIRE LASS and BEAUTY AND THE BEAST.

LYCEUM.—At 6.50, FISH OUT OF WATER. At 7.45, HAMLET.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.0, TWENTY MINUTES WITH A TIGER. AT 7.30, THE TWO ORPHANS.

STRAND.—At 7.0, INTRIGUE. At 7.30, OLD SAILORS. At 9.15, LOO AND THE PARTY WHO TOOK MISS.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 7.45, SWEETHEARTS and SOCIETY.

GAIETY.—FAST COACH and MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM.

GLOBE.—LADY AUDLEY'S SECRET and BLUE BEARD.

ROYALTY.—At 7.30, AWAKING. At 8.30, LA PERICHOLE.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.0, A WHIRLIGIG. At 7.45, OUR BOYS. At 10. ROMULUS AND REMUS.

CHARING CROSS.—At 7.30, MR. JOFFIN'S LATCH KEY. At 8.15, THE NEW MAGDALEN.

OPERA COMIQUE.—At 7.30, BENGAL TIGER. At 8.30, SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER.

COURT.—At 7.30, DREADFULLY ALARMING. At 8, MAGGIE'S SITUATION. At 9, BRIGHTON.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, THE TWO BONNYCASTLES. At 8.0, WHITTINGTON.

CRITERION.—LES PRES SAINT GERVAIS, &c.

AMPHITHEATRE, HOLBORN.—YOUNG WIDOW and THE BRIDAL.

SURREY.—FORTY THIEVES and THE SECRET.

PHILHARMONIC.—BOHEMIAN GIRL and BLACK EY'D SUSAN.

HENGLER'S CIRQUE.—LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD, &c.

SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE.—ALADDIN AND THE WONDERFUL LAMP, every Evening at 7.0, and Monday, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.0.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—This Day, CONCERT, BILLIARD MATCH, &c. On Tuesday, MONEY. Every Tuesday and Thursday, till 16th March, STANDARD ENGLISH PLAYS. Open daily, AQUARIUM, PICTURE GALLERY, &c.

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EGYPTIAN (LARGE) HALL.—Dr. LYNN, at 3.0 and 8.0.

EGYPTIAN HALL.—MASKELYNE AND COOKE, at 3.0 and 8.0.

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THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE

67 BARBICAN, E.C.

THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE LIFE BOAT ENDOWMENT FUND.

IN connection with the above fund we have received certain subscriptions, and, in accordance with the wishes of the senders we have opened an account with the London and County Bank, Aldersgate Street Branch, under the above title. Contributions will be received at any of the Branches of this Bank throughout the kingdom, and acknowledged by us each week in our columns. It has been suggested that we should undertake the charge of the fund, and we shall be willing to comply with the suggestion provided it meets with the general assent of our readers. In the meantime we are prepared to pay over to the account any sums that may be forwarded to us. We understand that at the next Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge Bro. Constable will move that the sum of £100 be contributed towards the Endowment Fund.

	£	s	d
Lodge of Tranquillity No. 185, per Bro. J. Constable -	2	2	0
Lodge of Confidence (Instruction), No. 193, per ditto -	1	1	0
	3	3	0

OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

THE history of the past week has been signalised by two events of somewhat more than the usual interest—the return to Parliament of an ex-rebel for an Irish, and of a disrobed Q.C. for an English constituency. We have nothing to say in favour of either choice—a great deal against both of them. It is possible to admire the conduct even of a misguided rebel, if at least he evince courage or some other manly virtue; but the man who advocated the most diabolical measures against our soldiery in 1848, and who deliberately broke his word of honour—can the word "honour" exist in his vocabulary?—such a man is beneath contempt. The only return of which John Mitchell is worthy, is an immediate and unopposed return to his convict's cell, there to spend the unexpired portion of his sentence. Happily for the dignity of Parliament, the Prime Minister has shown himself quite equal to the occasion. Without even waiting for the formal announcement of Mitchell's election, he declared, on Tuesday, his intention of moving that the election be declared void, and that the Speaker do issue a new writ. On Thursday the motion was made, and agreed to unanimously, after an amendment for adjournment had been disposed of. It would have been far better had no such amendment been proposed, there being no sympathy whatever either with the elect or the electors. Nor is it creditable to the borough of Stoke to have returned Dr. Kenealy. The ex-bencher of Gray's Inn has spent the last few months in foully abusing everybody—bench, bar, press, &c. The bare suggestion that the convict Arthur Orton is an impostor, appears to have acted on Dr. Kenealy much as a red rag does on a bull. It used to be, and still is, in most parts of the United Kingdom, considered an honour to sit in Parliament. Many, perhaps, may now fight shy of such an honour, which they must share in common, even for 24 hours, with an ex-convict and the bullying advocate of a proved impostor.

The principal question that has been discussed in the House of Commons is the Bill for legalising Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister, the second reading of which was moved by Sir T. Chambers. However, the advocacy of the learned Common Sergeant and that of his supporters failed to convince the House of the expediency of passing such a measure. The House rejected it by 171 to 142, or the very respectable majority of 29. The debate was somewhat enlivened by Mr. Beresford Hope, who, in the course of his speech, is reported to have made out that "the Claimant for the throne of Spain was the offspring of an uncle and

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niece; on the death of his grandmother, his great aunt's third sister became wife of his grandfather." The House did not quite understand this very confused relationship, so it laughed heartily—about the most sensible thing it could have done under the circumstances. Among other measures brought forward may be mentioned an Artisans' Dwelling Bill, the second reading of which passed without a division, and a Wild Animals (Scotland) Bill, which was rejected by a very considerable majority.

Tuesday was a grand day at the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich. H.R.H. the Commander-in-Chief inspected the cadets. The result of the recent examination for Commissions in the R. Engineers and R. Artillery, was made known, and among the successful candidates was the Prince Imperial, who obtained the seventh place. This was followed by the annual distribution of prizes and inspection, after which the cadets were dismissed. Among the spectators present was the Empress Eugénie, who must have been highly gratified at the success of her son and the popularity he had earned among his comrades. Another Prince also, Prince Leopold, has been chosen to fill a post of honour, not by competition, however, but by selection; not to the grade of officer in the Military order, but to a position of honour and responsibility in a Masonic Lodge. Prince Leopold is now S.W. of the Apollo Lodge, University of Oxford. May this be only a stepping stone to still higher rank in the Craft!

On Monday, at the Oval, the long talked of match at football between England and Ireland came off, and when "No side" was called, the former were found to be victors by two goals, a try, and fifteen touches down to nothing. The English were a strong team, captained by the Hon. H. A. Laurence, Richmond, and were somewhat the heavier, but the Irish (G. Stack, of Dublin University, Captain) played very pluckily, though their efforts to achieve anything in the way of success proved unavailingly. The event was afterwards concluded by a dinner at St. James's Hall, at which the players, their friends, and the members of most of the prominent London Clubs were present. The other noteworthy matters in the sporting world are the Waterloo Cup, and the practice of the two crews for the 'Varsity Race next month. There appear to have been occasional changes in the Cambridge boat, which hardly augurs well for its success, but it is early yet to judge of the respective merits of the eights. The crews may be expected to appear at Putney the first week in March, the race, as we have previously stated, being fixed for the 20th.

A Midsummer Night's Dream has been produced at the Gaiety with very great success. Mr. Phelps enacted the part of Bottom, and upon him fell the chief weight of the acting. The other parts were very creditably filled, and the performance cannot fail to prove highly attractive. Mr. Hollingshead deserves the thanks of the public for providing so excellent an entertainment. It is something in these days of Burlesque and Opera Bouffe to know there are some theatres in London devoted to the legitimate drama. In the musical world there have been latterly the usual series of concerts. "Monday Pops," "Saturday Pops," and London Ballad Concerts, to which must be added the Royal Albert Hall Popular Ballad Concerts. All these have attracted considerable audiences, and enabled the gloomy metropolis to, at all events, survive the unusual dulness of the last few weeks. By the way, the Clerk of the Weather has just favoured us with a little snow and sleet. We feel rather disposed to exclaim, with Horace,—

"Jam satis terris nivis atque diræ
Grandinis misit Pater."

At the distribution of prizes, on Thursday, in Lincoln's Inn Hall, to the "Devil's Own," the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for War, Mr. Gathorne Hardy, presided, and, in the course of his remarks, spoke very hopefully of the present efficient state of the Volunteers generally. He also congratulated the corps before him on the highly favourable report made of them by the inspecting officer, and expressed his intention of promoting, as far as lay in his power, the continued success of the Volunteer movement. After distributing some of the prizes Mr. Gathorne Hardy retired, a vote of thanks for his attendance being cordially proposed and enthusiastically responded to.

From Spain the news does not look hopeful for the immediate pacification of that unhappy country. The Northern Army has not carried Estella, the Carlist stronghold; but, instead, the Carlists have, as was reported last week, inflicted a very severe defeat on their antagonists, the consequence of which has been that some officers of high rank have been removed from their commands. The young King Alphonso has returned to his capital, having visited on his road home the veteran Espartero, the staunch upholder of his mother's throne. The interview is said to have been very affecting, and the old general and his youthful sovereign exchanged decorations in the most impressive manner. It does not speak well for the vigilance of the Alphonsist military authorities that the royal train was fired upon by the Carlists, to the danger of Alphonso and the terror of his suite. Meanwhile we hear nothing further from the seat of war. Doubtless, the Royal forces are re-organising, as probably are the troops of Don Carlos: evidently the end of the struggle is not yet.

In France the Constitutional complications appear to be approaching a solution. A new Senate Bill is talked of, and there seems to be a chance of its being passed by a considerable majority. There has been a surrender on both sides of sundry points, and hence this prospect of a speedy settlement. From Berlin we hear that the health of the Emperor of Germany is causing some anxiety. His Majesty, however, appears, according to the latest advices, to have been well enough to transact business with his advisers, though, by the recommendation of his medical attendants, he still keeps his room. We trust next week that we shall be in a position to announce his complete restoration to health, though additional care will be necessary if the weather in Berlin is anything like as unsatisfactory as it is here. The only other news of special interest from abroad immediately concerns this country. By a telegram received at the Colonial Office, it seems the Maori King and the Imperial authorities have met and interchanged courtesies with each other. This looks very hopeful for the future of New Zealand. For almost a generation we have heard of constant disputes between the two—disputes which more than once have been referred to the bloody arbitrament of war, in which British pluck has not always commanded the success it deserved. We trust the conciliatory spirit which clearly animates both the Maories and the Colonial authorities will bring forth good fruit at an early date, and that hereafter there will be no further "little wars" in this portion of the British Empire.

The Committee of the United Grand Lodge met on Wednesday the 17th inst., at Freemasons' Hall. After which the Grand Lodge of Benevolence was held. Bro. J. Clabon in the chair. Bro. J. Hervey G.S. read the minutes of the former meeting, which were confirmed. Grants to the amount of £70, voted at the former meeting, were also confirmed; and new grants, amounting to £708, were given; after which the Grand Lodge was closed, and the members adjourned. Among those present were Bros. Brownrigg, J. Nunn, Rev. J. R. Simpson, J. Smith, H. Garrod, Wright, E. Page, Stephens, Griffiths Smith, J. Boyd, T. Cubitt, C. Hogard, Koch, J. Smith, F. Binckes, Tyrell, J. Constable, H. Dicketts, Swan, J. Savage, J. Mander, Lane, Rosenthal, W. H. Main, Marsh, J. Terry, Burrell, Hansworth, C. A. Cottebrune, H. G. Buss, Pendlebury, Pope, S. May, W. Smith, T. Bull, Ough.

We again urge upon Scottish Freemasons, who may peruse these pages, the paramount claim upon their benevolence and patriotic pride of the proposed Royal Scottish Masonic Benevolent Institution, for which the R.W. Bro. George R. Harriott is working so energetically. The success of the project will, it is true, be due to his noble initiative and self-sacrifice, but its proximate foundation will be no less the work of those whose warm hearts and enlightened sentiments may have leaped in practical accord with his appeal. The Institution, besides exemplifying that virtue which is the boast of our Craft, and whose active exercise by individual Scotchmen has raised an imperishable monument to their country from grateful thousands, wherever the flag of Britain goes, will do more to raise the Masonic "esprit de corps" in Scotland, and to place the tenets of our Society on their rightful plane, than any other event throughout our long historic annals in

"Caledonia! stern and wild,
Meet nurse for a poetic child,
Land of brown heath and shaggy wood,
Land of the mountain and the flood."

and not less, as the poet says elsewhere, "land of warm hearts, practical philanthropy and sincerest, because

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homely, welcome." We rejoice to learn that Scotchmen in our colonies and abroad are generously responding to R.W. Bro. Harriott's appeal, and also that the most hopeful prospects are opening up in Ayrshire, Renfrewshire, Glasgow, Lanarkshire and Dumbarton. Stirling, Forfar, Aberdeen and Fife, will, we may be sure, not be behind in the race. To assure the commencement of so grandly patriotic an undertaking as the "Royal Scottish Masonic Benevolent Institution" our brethren should be polled Lodge by Lodge, and man by man. More than the erection of a gorgeous temple, more than any pompous and glittering ceremonial, more than the highest flights of national literature, this project will grow in glory as generation after generation shall bless its founders, the "single-minded in a selfish age," who did not hesitate for so good an end to take upon themselves the burden and heat of the day.

The *Scottish Freemasons' Magazine*, the fourth number of which is now before us, is a modest but ably conducted paper, which aspires to represent that large and important section of our brethren who are located North of the Tweed. It contains some good articles, and the reports of Lodge meetings are excellent. We wish our contemporary success. We notice that the brethren of St. James's Lodge, Tarbolton, celebrated their anniversary by a grand supper and ball. The toast of the evening was "The immortal memory of Burns," which was given by Bro. Neil Munchie, the R. W. M., who presided. It was drunk with all the honours. Burns was master of the St. James's Lodge, and in some valedictory verses to which we recently referred he begged his brethren :—

"When yearly ye assemble a';
One round, I ask it with a tear,
To him, the Bard that's far awa'?"

This solemn request appears to be religiously complied with by the Masons of Tarbolton, who may well be proud of the connection of their Lodge with the name and fame of the greatest poet Scotland has ever produced.

During the past ten years the sum of £20,000 has been expended on the restoration of the Old Abbey Church at Bath. The work of renovation has been nearly accomplished, but as the funds did not provide for the repair of the curious carving and sculpture on the west front, the local brotherhood of Freemasons have recently decided to undertake that portion of the re-embellishment. The subject was brought forward at a large gathering of Masons in Bath, a week or two ago, and nearly £200 was subscribed.

Tuesday was quite a gala day at the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich. The list of Cadets recommended for commissions and the distribution of prizes to the successful candidates drew together a most distinguished assembly. The Duke of Cambridge, attended by his staff, first inspected the Cadets, who were then put through different exercises, by sundry of the Commission, and among them was the Prince Imperial, who obtained the seventh place in the examination, and thus won a commission in the Engineers, though he did not accept it. The Duke of Cambridge, after the distribution of the prizes, addressed the Cadets in terms highly flattering to their efficiency, and equally encouraging to their future career.

A four days' sale took place, last week, at Messrs. Puttick and Simpson's, Leicester Square, of the music, &c., of the late Bros. Hopwood and Crew, New Bond Street. Bro. C. Coote jun. purchased the lease and goodwill of the business of that well-known firm. It is worthy of notice that the "Prince Imperial Galop," composed by Bro. Coote, realised the enormous sum of £990, the largest sum ever paid for a piece of Dance Music.

The army estimates of 1875-6 present nothing of a startling character. No new "fad" is introduced. No considerable alterations in any branch of the service proposed. The expenses are a little in advance of last year, and the total effective strength also slightly increased. The latter appears wonderfully insignificant, however, when we hear of the total increase of men being 1060, and that 21 men and 20 horses are to be added to the cavalry of the line. We see with regret that the Horse Artillery is to be reduced by an entire battery, and the infantry by a whole battalion. An increase of 284 in the Royal Artillery must be placed against these losses. In the Reserve forces, effective Militia is to be reduced by 1000 men. The nominal strength of the Yeomanry increased by 248, and Mr. Hardy reckons upon an increase of about 8,000 in the Volunteers. The monetary part of the estimates also shows an increase, from £14,485,300 in 1874 to £14,677,700 in 1875. It is perhaps worthy of remark that Leap Year should account for no less than £13,000 of the excess.

Advertisements are not, generally speaking, a lively class of literature, still we occasionally extract a little merriment from the strange phraseology which advertisers think fit to adopt. We noticed the following, a few days since, in the columns of a daily contemporary :—

TO Clerks and others :—A first class position can always be commanded by any one who knows a shorthand, learn therefore, RITCHIE'S ABBREVIATED LONGHAND, by which speeches *can be reported in a fortnight*. (The Italics are our own!) Post free, &c., &c.

We know what short-hand is—rows of symbols, like the pothooks and hangers of our early days—apparently in a state of intoxication. We think we might manage, at a pinch, to define "Abbreviated Longhand." But what is an abbreviated Longhand, by which speeches can be reported in a fortnight? The Longhand must have been terribly long—or the abbreviations hardly worthy of mentioning—if it requires a whole fortnight to report a speech. Or else our public speakers have grown unconscionably long-winded.

It is incumbent on all people who have the means to insure their lives. Death is no respecter of persons—nor has he any regard for time in paying his visits. The uninsured man—especially if he be married, and have a family—runs a great risk of leaving them to the tender mercies of the world if he make no money provision for them at his death. Hence Life Insurance Companies; amongst which one whose title indicates its connection with the Brotherhood, viz., the "Masonic and General Life Assurance Company," is in every way worthy of the support of all Masons.

Our contemporary, the *Civilian*, devoted a great portion of its space last week to the subject of the report of the Civil Service Enquiry Commission. It is instructive to observe the different view which an organ devoted to the particular interests and conversant with the innermost workings of the Service takes as compared with those of the press generally. We feel sure the outside public has very little idea of Government offices if they suppose, as the Commission recommends that so much patronage will be judiciously exercised by the heads of Departments.

We beg to state that Bro. Valleton's Readings in French literature, to which we referred last week, are held every Monday and Friday evening, between 9 p.m. and 10 p.m., at 25 Castle Street East, Oxford Market, opposite the Princess's Theatre.

At the festival of the Apollo University Masonic Lodge, held 17th February, the Rev H. A. Rickard, Christchurch, was installed W.M. for the ensuing year. He appointed Prince Leopold S.W., and said he hoped his Royal Highness would be able to spend the next term in Oxford, and fulfil his duties in the Lodge. Lord Skelmersdale D.G.M. was present.

Bro. Schuberth (No. 186), the Director of the Schuberth Society, announces the 9th Season of this Musical and Classical Society, at the Beethoven Rooms, Cavendish Square, on 24th February, 31st March, 28th April, 2nd and 30th June.

A committee has been formed, which held its first meeting on the 12th inst., at the Temple Club, Arundel-street, Strand, for the purpose of organising a benefit performance for Bro. E. P. Hingston, formerly lessee of the Opera Comique, late manager of the Criterion Theatre, who has for many years, in England, America and the Colonies, been connected with literary and theatrical pursuits, and who is now, and has been for some time past, in failing health. Bro. F. B. Chatterton has kindly given the use of the Theatre Royal Drury Lane, for a morning performance,

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in March next. Among those present on that occasion, were Bros. F. Kingsbury, Ed. Murray, J. Willing sen., Johnson, J. Willing jun., and G. Murray. Bro. C. W. Thompson is the Hon. Secretary.

His Excellency the Italian Minister, accompanied by Bro. Sir Michael Costa, Raphael Costa and several other gentlemen, honoured Bro. Fred. Godfrey (1257) with a visit to hear the rehearsal of a Grand March, composed by Sir Michael Costa at the express command of his Majesty the King of Italy. At its conclusion the distinguished visitors expressed their satisfaction at the efficient manner the band of the Coldstream Guards, under the leadership of Bro. Fred. Godfrey, had realised the views of the talented composer.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.—Sores, wounds, ulcerations and other diseases affecting the skin are capable of speedy amendment by this cooling and healing unguent, which has called forth the loudest praise from persons who had suffered for years from bad legs, abscesses and chronic ulcers, after every hope of cure had long passed away. None but those who have experienced the soothing effect of this ointment can form an idea of the comfort it bestows, by restraining inflammation and allaying pain. Whenever Holloway's Ointment has been once used it has established its own worth, and has again been eagerly sought for as the easiest and safest remedy for all ulcerous complaints. In neuralgia, rheumatism and gout, the same application, properly used, gives wonderful relief.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All Letters and communications must be addressed to the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, 67 *Barbican, London, E.C.*

P. Z.—We think your ruling just. The candidate proving ineligible, the proposition falls through, *ipso facto*.

URGENT.—Why apply to us? You must go to the Secretary of the R. M. Benevolent Institution, and you are sure of a courteous reception from Bro. Terry, who will give you any information in his power.

L.—There is considerable doubt about the point.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY NEWS.

FRIDAY.

It has been found necessary, under existing circumstances, to raise the bank rate to 3½ per cent. this week, the general condition of the money market having shown the Directors of the Bank sufficient reason for at once taking steps to strengthen their position. Along with a demand for gold for the continent it is known that speculative operations are at work in New York to force up the premium and create a scarcity of money, thus attracting specie from this country. So far the markets here have taken to the alteration very quietly, and, indeed, it would appear as if the change had already been discounted. This is the chief point of interest this week in financial matters, except, perhaps, the publication of the regulations in the Spanish official journal for the payment of the over-due coupons of the external debt of the country. On the strength of this announcement the investing public are beginning to look more kindly on Spanish stock, and as there also appears to be some grounds for hoping that the difficulties surrounding Turkish issues may be removed these securities are being inquired for. While dealing with those obligations as speculative investments in what we may call despised securities, which are sometimes profitable to the buyer, we may remark that success in making speculative investments depends in a very great measure on the time at which such operations are entered into. Sometimes one class of securities offer the best opportunity, and sometimes another, and it is of course when any one particular class is much depreciated in market value that speculative investments therein have the greatest chance of turning out profitably. Purchases having for their object the securing of a large profit by a rise in prices within a moderate space of time must be made when the prospects of the stocks appear to be very bad, when every one is selling, and when prices are in consequence forced down to an extreme level. It is necessary even for buyers to act as it were in the dark, and without any further motive than the fact that prices have fallen much, and for a certain period continuously. We do not mean that the public should buy merely because prices are low, and without knowing anything of the merits or position of a stock. An acquaintance with all its points is desirable in all cases. But it is better for the buyer to act in the dark as regards the immediate course of market prices and sometimes even against his opinion as to what may appear to be the more probable tendency of values. It is evident sometimes, that even although a stock may fall temporarily to a still lower figure than that actually quoted, a recovery of substantial amount is inevitable before long. The immediate course of prices must, in any case, be very doubtful, but the probability of a decided recovery in a short time is very great, and occasionally it is as nearly a certainty as anything can be. The speculative investor then, who is not anxious as to the course prices may take immediately, provided that by the end of a certain time an advance shall take place, should buy when things appear to be at their worst, and when quotations have been depressed for some little time.

The English Funds have been quietly supported, and are quoted at much the same rates as last week.

Home railways show a good market, although the tendency at one period pointed to weakness. Whether or not the passenger-tax will be dealt with in the coming Budget, is causing some discussion, which may eventually lead to higher rates; in the meantime purchases are being made to close speculative accounts.

In the foreign market operations have progressed but slowly, the feeling of uncertainty being assisted by the unsteadiness of the rates of exchange. Two of the stocks we have already referred to as being in some demand, viz.—Turkish and Spanish.

American and miscellaneous descriptions maintain a very dull appearance, comparatively few bargains being entered into.

Garibaldi's project of a canal from the Tiber to the Sea, has, it is reported from Rome, been so far approved of by the Italian Government that the preliminary survey is to be made at its expense.

At a special meeting of the English Channel Steamship Company Limited (Dicey's Patent), it was agreed to raise £16,000 on debentures, to finish the vessel, and equip her for sea. The directors say they are perfectly satisfied with the recent trial trips, and they have shown their confidence in the ultimate success of the Company by subscribing for £10,000 of the £16,000 debentures.

The Stock Exchange will be closed to-morrow (Saturday) to enable the architect to carry out certain necessary repairs.

In the half-yearly report of the Great Northern Railway Company, the directors call attention to the fact that they have decided not to discontinue the use of second class carriages. The wishes of the public so far as they have been expressed appear to be in favour of retaining three classes.

In committee on the Bank Holidays' Act Amendment Bill, Sir John Lubbock will move the insertion of a clause to the effect that whenever the 26th day of December shall fall on a Sunday, the Monday following, that is to say, the 27th December, shall be a Bank holiday.

With regard to the great lock-out of miners in South Wales, it is stated that many of the men have migrated, and that those who remain exhibit no signs of giving in.

The report of the Langham Hotel Company Limited to the meeting of the 24th inst. states that the business transacted during the past half-year represented £50,905, and that the total available balance for distribution, including the sum of £7,038 brought forward, is £15,202, out of which it is recommended to declare a dividend at the rate of 18½ per cent. per annum, against 17½ per cent. per annum at the corresponding period of last year; and to carry forward £7,257.

We are glad to see that the Government contemplate bringing in a Bill this Session to provide for the Registration of Trade Marks. We presume that the Bill will be identical in principle, if not in detail, with that prepared by the Board of Trade, and brought in by the late Ministry in 1873, but not proceeded with. The Associated Chambers of Commerce, owing to pressure from whom the last Bill was brought in, have not been idle during the interval, and it may be that representations emanating from them have caused some alteration in the details of the proposed measure.

The following statement shows the receipts for traffic on the undermentioned railways for the past week, as compared with the corresponding week in 1874:—

Railway.	Miles open. 1875	Miles open. 1874	Receipts. 1875 £	Receipts. 1874 £
Caledonian	737	731	50,708	49,699
Glasgow and South Western	315	315	14,881	14,558
Great Eastern	763	763	39,563	37,744
Great Northern	517	513	49,689	45,615
Great Western	1,525	1,502	90,544	92,763
Lancashire and Yorkshire	430	428	61,886	59,782
London and Brighton	376	376	22,152	21,748
London, Chatham and Dover	153	138	14,587	13,093
London and North Western	1,582	1,577	150,204	144,422
London, Tilbury and Southend	45	45	1,456	1,439
Manchester and Sheffield	258	258	29,276	26,568
Midland	944	883	103,919	91,512
Metropolitan	8	7½	8,758	8,244
" " District	8	6½	5,012	4,280
" " St. John's Wood	1½	1½	455	427
North British	839	820	37,333	35,623
North Eastern	1,379	1,379	126,796	117,899
North London	12	12	6,578	6,291
North Staffordshire Railway	190	153	9,596	9,116
" " Canal	118	118	1,660	1,491
South Eastern	350	347	26,224	24,712

CLUB HOUSE PLAYING CARDS.—Mogul Quality, picked 1s 3d per pack, 14s per dozen packs. Do. seconds 1s per pack, 11s per dozen packs. If by post 1½d per pack extra. Cards for Piquet, Bézique, Ecarté, &c., Mogul Quality 1od per pack, 9s per dozen packs.—London: W. W. Morgan, 57 Barbican, E.C.

DE LA RUE'S INTERNATIONAL PLAYING CARDS.—Portraits of the Royalty of Europe. Post free, 2s 6d. W. W. Morgan, 67 Barbican, London, E.C.

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DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be greatly obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the kingdom would favour us with a copy of their summonses each time of issue.

SATURDAY, 20th FEBRUARY.

715—Panmure, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
1364—Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Hackney.
1425—Hyde Park, 1 Craven-road, Paddington.

149—Peace, Masonic Hall, Feltham.
308—Prince George, Bottoms, Eastwood, Yorks.

MONDAY, 22nd FEBRUARY.

4—Royal Somerset House and Inverness, Freemasons' Hall.
26—Castle Lodge of Harmony, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.
28—Old Kings Arms, Freemasons' Hall.
79—Pythagorean, Ship Tavern, Royal Hill, Greenwich.
183—Unity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
902—Burgoyne, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.

48—Industry, Freemasons' Hall, West-street, Gateshead.
302—Hope, Masonic Hall, Bradford.
307—Prince Frederick, White Horse Hotel, Hebden Bridge.
827—St. John's, Masonic Temple, Halifax-road, Dewsbury, Yorks.
R. A. 448—Regularity, Freemasons' Hall, Halifax.

TUESDAY, 23rd FEBRUARY.

14—Tuscan, Freemasons' Hall.
92—Mora, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
141—Faith, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
145—Prudent Brethren, Freemasons' Hall.
186—Industry, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, Basinghall-street.
205—Israel, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
259—Prince of Wales, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.
1158—Southern Star, Montpelier Tavern, Walworth-road (Station).—Emergency.
1196—Urban, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's-gate.
1348—Ebury, Morpeth Arms Tavern, Millbank.
R. A. 7—Royal York Chapter of Perseverance, Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 180—St. James's Union, Freemasons' Hall.

448—St. James', Freemasons' Hall, Halifax.

WEDNESDAY, 24th FEBRUARY.

2—Antiquity, Freemasons' Hall.
212—Euphrates, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, Basinghall-street.
507—United Pilgrims, Horns Tavern, Kennington.
754—High Cross, Seven Sisters' Tavern, Page Green, Tottenham.
898—Temperance in the East, Private Assembly Rooms, 6 Newby-place, Poplar.
1056—Victoria, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
1119—St. Bede, Mechanics' Institute, Jarrow.
R. A. 13—Union Waterloo, Freemasons' Hall, Woolwich.
Northumberland and Berwick Lodge of Mark Masters, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

290—Huddersfield, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield.
304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
730—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Cleckheaton, Yorks.
1283—Ryburn, Masonic Rooms, Sowerby Bridge, Yorks.
R. A. 387—Moravian, Masonic Hall, Shipley.

THURSDAY, 25th FEBRUARY.

General Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
22—Neptune, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.
34—Mount Moriah, Freemasons' Hall.
65—Prosperity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.
66—Grenadiers, Freemasons' Hall.
99—Shakespeare, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
838—South Middlesex, Beaufort Hotel, North-end, Fulham.
871—Royal Oak, White Swan Tavern, High-street, Deptford.
R. A. 29—St. Albans, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
R. A. 141—Faith, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
R. A. 657—Canonbury, Masons' Arms, Masons'-avenue, Basinghall-street.
R. A. 1385—Gladsmuir, Red Lion Hotel, Barnet.

111—Restoration, Freemasons' Hall, Archer-street, Darlington.
439—Scientific, Private Room, Bingley.
810—Craven, Devonshire Hotel, Skipton.
904—Phœnix, Ship Hotel, Westgate, Rotherham.
971—Trafalgar, Commercial-street, Batley, Yorks.
1418—Fraternity, Freemasons' Hall, Wellington-road, Stockton-on-Tees.
R. A. 209—Three Grand Principles, Masonic Hall, Dewsbury.
R. A. 307—Good Intent, White Horse, Hebden Bridge, near Halifax.

FRIDAY, 26th FEBRUARY.

197—Jerusalem, Freemasons' Hall.
569—Fitz-Roy, Head Quarters, Hon. Artillery Company.
861—Finsbury, Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton.
R. A. 134—Caledonian, Ship and Turtle Tavern, Leadenhall-street.
R. A. 719—Belgrave, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
R. A. 862—Whittington, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.

1142—Mirfield, Assembly Room, Eastthorpe, Mirfield, Yorks.
1385—Gladsmuir, Red Lion Hotel, Barnet.
R. A. 242—Magdalen, Town Hall, Doncaster.
Royal Kent Rose Croix Chapter, No. 20 Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

SATURDAY, 27th FEBRUARY.

1462—Wharncliffe, Rose and Crown Hotel, Penistone.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—219—St. Clair, Freemasons' Hall.
TUESDAY—124—Defensive Band, Alexander Hall, Cockburn-street.
R. A. 86—Naval and Military, Freemasons' Hall.
WEDNESDAY—112—St. John, Fisher-row, Royal Hotel, Musselburgh.
THURSDAY—262—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall.
FRIDAY—223—Trafalgar, 54 Bernard-street, Leith.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Temple Lodge of Mark Masters, No. 173.—This young and rapidly increasing Lodge met at the Green Dragon, Stepney, on Monday, the 8th, to celebrate the first installation since its consecration. Bro. T. S. Mortlock P.M., Tiddle No. 8, supported by the Officers. The Lodge was opened, and a Board of Installed Masters was formed, and Bro. F. Binckes G.S. presented Bro. C. E. Lacey S.W. and W.M. elect for installation. The ceremony was carefully and impressively rendered by the retiring Master, Bro. T. S. Mortlock. On the re-admission of the brethren, the W.M. invested his Officers as follows:—Bros. Mortlock I.P.M. and Treasurer, G. Verry S.W., E. Gottheil J.W., Marsh M.O., Mole S.O., Snow J.O., J. Hood Secretary, Sturtevant Organist, Grant Tyler, &c. Bro. Shaboe P.G. Chaplain for Middlesex rose to express to the W.M. and brethren in open Lodge the great gratification he and his brother visitors had felt in witnessing the able and impressive manner Bro. Mortlock had performed his duties. Bros. Winn and F. Binckes followed, the latter endorsing all that fell from the lips of the Rev. Bro.; there were in this degree but few who were able to perform those duties, and it necessarily fell very heavy on those brethren; and he was pleased to see the example shown by the outgoing Master, and he hoped it would be followed by his successor. The W.M., in appropriate terms, presented Bro. T. S. Mortlock with a very elegant gold Past Master's jewel, as a token of esteem and regard, and appreciation of his services as first Past Master of the Temple Lodge. Bro. Mortlock suitably replied, after which the Lodge was closed, and the brethren sat down to a very sumptuous banquet, provided by Bro. Walters. The usual loyal toasts were given, including those of Earl Percy G.M., and the Earl of Limerick Deputy G.M. Bro. F. Binckes returned thanks for the Grand Officers, and Bro. Winn P.M. Kent Lodge for the Visitors. The toast of the W.M., P.M.'s, Officers, &c. followed, and the brethren separated, after enjoying a very pleasant evening.

Domatic Lodge, No. 177.—This Lodge meeting was held on Friday, 12th February, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Geo. Everett W.M., A. Treadwell S.W., J. Willing J.W., J. Smith P.G.P. Treasurer, T. Williams Secretary, W. Palmer S.D., J. Buscall J.D. G. Clarke I.G., P.M.'s Brett P.G.P., Ferguson, Tims, W. F. Smith, Foulger, also Bros. Parker, Harris, Goodfellow, Purchase, Jones and 75 others. Visitors—Bros. Betts W.M. 1351, Young P.M. 11 Crowhurst 209, Ellis 1381, Stiles 1507, Walls 1503, Fisher 834, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. Richards, Parker, Sergeant, Bensley, Holder and Harris were duly raised to the third degree. Bros. Marriott, Turner, Herbage, Gibson and Rupkin, the latter by permission of W.M. 1507, were passed to second degree. Messrs. R. W. Robinson, R. Beverstock and F. H. Plummer initiated, Bro. W. H. Orchard joined. W.M. Bro. Everett, although suffering from severe cold, performed the ceremonies in a very impressive manner, ably assisted by Bro. J. Smith P.G.P. The brethren, 103 in number, adjourned to the banquet, which was served in Anderton's best style. Some characteristic speeches and first class music from Bros. Ellis, Walls and Styles afforded a pleasant relief after the arduous duties of the Lodge.

Lodge of Tranquillity, No. 185.—A very numerous gathering of brethren assembled at the Terminus Hotel, Cannon Street, E.C., on Monday, the 15th inst. The special attraction being a desire to do honour to Bro. John Rees, the W.M. elect, whose installation was announced to take place on that evening. Prior to this event some Lodge business had to be disposed of, the most important of which was the conferring of the Master Mason's degree upon Bro. Barber, and initiating into the ancient mysteries Mr. George Downing. These ceremonies, as well as the rather difficult one of installation, were performed by Bro. John Constable, the retiring W.M., with consummate ability. The several addresses were delivered with rare excellence and marked feeling, securing the undivided attention of the audience, whose approbation was loudly expressed. The newly installed Master, addressing a few appropriate observations to each, invested his officers as follows, Bros. John Constable I.P.M., J. D. Barnett J.W., D. Posener J.W., J. Peartree Treasurer, Phil. Levy Secretary, Bilby Organist, George Pare S.D., Bailey J.D., Croker I.G., Vesper Tyler. The proceedings now became highly interesting. Bro. Saul Solomon P.M. rose and delivered a most excellent address, in which he, in aptly chosen sentences, enumerated the high qualities which distinguished Bro. Constable, the I.P.M., and cited the great advantages the Lodge had gained through his instrumentality, not only during his year of office but ever since he had been connected with it. It afforded him unalloyed pleasure to present Bro. Constable with a slight token of the high esteem and affection in which he is held. It consisted of a handsome P.M.'s gold jewel, an elegant silver salver, and a testimonial on vellum, in a costly Alhambra frame. This last Bro. Solomon considered the most important, inasmuch as it may be handed down from generation to generation, and upon it his posterity may gaze with pardonable pride as having been presented to their ancestor in token of the high esteem and love in which he was held by his fellow men. The inscriptions on vellum, and with obvious alterations on the salver, were as follows:—"Lodge of Tranquillity, No. 185. The brethren of this Lodge, at a meeting thereof, held at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon Street, E.C., on the 18th day of January 1875, resolved unanimously to present this testimonial, with a jewel and a silver salver, to Bro. John Constable, in recognition of the many services which he had rendered to the Lodge, and of the efficient manner in which the duties of its W.M. had been performed by him during the then expiring year of his Mastership, and also as a mark of the brethren's admiration of his qualities as a man and a Mason. Presented in open Lodge, on the 15th of February 1875." Bro. Constable briefly, but feelingly thanked the brethren for their, what he deemed exaggerated appreciation of the slight services he had been able to render, and promised that such energies as he possessed would, in future, as they have been in the past, be directed to promote the prosperity of the Lodge. The brethren then adjourned to the banquetting hall, where an elegant spread awaited them, provided by Bro. Silver, whose name is a sufficient guarantee that the good things placed on the table were not only of the best quality, but prepared with the culinary skill that has ever distinguished that brother's operations. The newly installed Master presided, and, when the cloth was removed, proceeded to dispose of the various toasts. The responses were brief. Even Bro. F. Binckes, Grand Steward, checked his usual flow of eloquence when called upon to respond for the Grand Officers. This duty, he said, very often fell to his lot, although he was not entitled to it, he certainly was nearly,

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yet not exactly, a Grand Officer. However, for want of any one better, he was always pleased to say a few words in praise of the Grand Officers, who filled their several positions with honour to themselves and to the great advantage of the Craft. He could not allow this opportunity to pass without expressing his tribute of admiration of Bro. Constable as a man and a Mason. Whatever he may have done for this Lodge, he, who had watched his career from without, could not help admiring his zeal, energy, kindliness, and, above all, his fervent appreciation of all appertaining to the duties of the Craft. He had been pleased to witness the testimonials, presented in such feeling terms by Bro. Solomon, but after all that had been said and done, not half the debt of gratitude to which Bro. Constable is entitled has been liquidated. Bro. Hickman W.M. 188, briefly responded for the visitors. For the P.M.'s Bro. Morris Hart was called upon. He said, the W.M. may probably think I feel overwhelmed with gratitude for the honour of being named the representative of the august body of P.M.'s of this Lodge, but such is not the case, as I cannot pretend to represent them conscientiously. I certainly have been a P.M. of a Lodge of Tranquillity for 15 years, but the present Lodge seems quite different in all its aspects, mainly through the efforts of the I.P.M.; a transformation has been accomplished, so advantageously, that old P.M.'s are well pleased to be consigned to deserved obscurity, especially when we see many brethren of ability gradually advancing in the higher offices of the Lodge. The testimonials which have been presented give me profound satisfaction; I congratulate Bro. Constable with all my heart, and in this I am sure I am joined by the Past Masters generally. The present proud position of the Lodge warrants a hopefulness for its future prosperity; whatever service should be required, the brethren may rest assured will be cheerfully rendered by the P.M.'s of this Lodge. Prosperity to the Benevolent Fund produced an eloquent appeal from Past Master Solomon, and was liberally responded to by many brethren. Bro. Constable proposed, amidst great cheering, the health of the W.M., who, in accordance with his determination to be brief, replied in few, but very appropriate terms. The evening's proceedings were enlivened by the vocal efforts of Bros. Taylor, Baxter and Carter, under the direction and with the assistance of Bro. Theodor Distin. Bro. George Perrin, who happened to be present as a visitor, volunteered his assistance; his well known vocal abilities contributed greatly to the enjoyment of the assembly, who thanked him repeatedly, with well deserved applause. The P.M.'s present were: Bros. Saul Solomon, Morris Hart, Holbrook, Harfeld, Myer Harris, Bloomfield, N. Moss, E. Gottheil, N. Gluckstein. Among the visitors may be noticed the following: Bros. F. Binckes P.M., P.Z., Grand Steward, Hickman W.M. 188, Buckland W.M. 205, Grunebaum W.M. Montefiore, Dalwood W.M. 860, Groombridge W.M. Marquis of Lorne, Dymiss P.M. 421, Lazarus P.M. 205, Wells P.M. 1314, Nash S.D. 1347, Barden I.G. 1347, Canter P.M. 283, Taylor P.G.D. Wilts., P.M. 580, Frankford 188, Higgins P.M. 421, and George Perrin 23.

Merchant Navy Lodge, No. 781.—This prosperous Lodge assembled at the Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, E., on the 10th inst. Bros. J. Rugg W.M. presiding, supported by his officers, Bros. Neville S.W., Medland J.W., Hallett, S.D., Gavin J.D., Breden I.G., Scheerboon D.C., Bradbury P.M. W.S., E. T. Read P.M. Hon. Sec., J. Wright P.M. A.G.P. Tr. Lodge opened with prayer, and minutes of the last regular Lodge were read and confirmed. The Lodge was then opened in the three degrees, and the W.M. then raised Bros. Cullingford, Messelbrook and Steel, to the sublime degree of Master Masons; Bros. Chapen, Hagman and Morton were passed to the degree of F.C., and the Lodge resumed to the 1st degree. This being the night of annual election for W.M., Treasurer and Tyler, the suffrages of the Brethren fell upon Bro. Neville S.W., he being unanimously elected; Bro. J. Wright P.M. A.G.P. was unanimously re-elected Treasurer, Bro. Steadman Tyler, and Bros. Lax, Ould and Crowley auditors. The most interesting part of the business was then proceeded with, viz., the presentation of a very handsome gold watch and chain, (manufactured by Bro. Sir Jno. Bennett) to Bro. Wright P.M., and for many years the Treasurer of this Lodge. The W.M. in presenting this testimonial expressed his gratification in having the honour to convey with it the hearty and fraternal affection of the brethren, and to express the high estimation he was held in by those who had contributed so liberally to this testimonial, he might also assure him that he, with the brethren, trusted that he (Bro. Wright) might long continue in his present career of usefulness, and that when it should please the G.A.O.T.U. to remove him from this sublunary abode, that his children might remember, with gratification and pride, the high esteem that their father was held in. The inscription was as follows:—

"Presented by the members of the Merchant Navy Lodge No. 781, to Bro. Jno. Wright, as a mark of esteem and fraternal affection." Accompanying this was a handsomely-illuminated address. Bro. Wright, in suitable and very feeling terms, expressed his gratitude to the brethren. Another very interesting event took place: Bro. Bracebridge P.M. presented to the Lodge a Gavel that the late lamented Prince Consort used in laying the foundation-stone of the Sailors' Asiatic Home, that day 35 years ago. This gavel being associated with such pleasant recollections, and the Asiatic Home being in the immediate locality of this Lodge, and of which he was the architect, Bro. Bracebridge hoped that the W.M. would accept it on behalf of the members of the Lodge. We may add that this gavel was manufactured from a portion of the "Royal George." The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a sumptuous banquet. On the removal of the cloth, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and duly responded to, special reference being made to the recent bereavement of the Pro. G.M., and the brethren separated at a late hour, having spent a very pleasant and enjoyable evening. Amongst the visitors were Bros. Terry, Davies, Mortlock, Stephens and others.

Whittington Lodge, No. 862.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on 16th inst., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street. Bro. J. Weaver, P.P.G.O. Middlesex, in the chair. Bros. Kingston S.W., Walker J.W., Quilty P.M. Treasurer, R. W. Little P.M. Secretary, Pritchard S.D., Walmisley J.D., Moore I.G., P.M.'s Jas. Brett P.G.P., Harlostine, Jones and Smith. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. Jas. Weaver initiated Mr. Cole, passed Bro. Holland and Capt. Doherty Waterhouse, of No. 255, to the 2nd degree, and raised Bro. Hund, Williams, Ward and Oberte to the 3rd degree in his usual perfect manner. Bro. Jones P.M. consented to act as Steward at next anniversary of the Girls' School. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. The visitors were E. Clarke and Major Finney.

Strawberry Hill Lodge, No. 946.—A meeting of this Lodge was held on the 10th inst. at the Grotto Hotel, Cross Deep, Twickenham. Bros. Waghorn W.M., Hayward S.W., Johnson J.W., Wohlgemuth S.D., J. R. Stedwell P.G.G.J.W. Middlesex, Treasurer, W. Platt P.M. Secretary, T. Price J.D., T. Darke P.M. as I.G. and P.M.'s Kepling, W. Smeed, Whitney, &c. The Lodge having been opened, the minutes were confirmed, and Bro. Rawes was passed to the second degree. The election for W.M. then took place, and Bro. Hayward was unanimously elected. Bro. Stedwell P.G.J.W. Middlesex was re-elected Treasurer, and the veteran Bro. Riley Tyler. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a good and substantial repast. The usual toasts were given, and the admirable working of the W.M. during his occupation of the chair was highly commended. The visitors were Bros. J. H. Riley 188, and Hiscock 1420. Bros. D. J. Pope, J. H. Ryley and several others contributed to the harmony. The brethren returned to town after enjoying a very agreeable evening.

Lodge of Montefiore, No. 1017.—A meeting of this Lodge was held on the 10th inst. at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. Bros. Grunebaum W.M., Blom S.W., S. Pollitzer P.M. as J.W., L. Jacobs Treasurer, E. P. Albert P. M. Treasurer, Albu J.D., Ellis I.G., Hochsfield Organist and P.M.'s De Solla and J. Lazarus. The Lodge was opened, and Bro. Harper was raised to the third degree, and Bros. Zappert, Hands, Russe and Dranberg were passed to the degree of Fellow Crafts. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren separated, there being no banquet.

Perfect Ashlar Lodge, No. 1178.—The above Lodge met on Thursday, 4th February, at the Gregorian Arms Tavern, Jamaica-road, Bermondsey. G. Deakin W.M., J. Rose S.W., J. A. Smith J.W., F. H. Ebsworth P.M. Treasurer, F. Walters P.G.P. (Middlesex) Secretary, W. Batchelor S.D., W. T. Lowe J.D., F. Garbett I.G., J. Stock M.C., P.M.'s Grace, Harnsworth, May and Porter. The Lodge having been opened, the confirmation of the minutes was unanimous. The work done consisted of raising Bro. J. Porter by J. Howe 1326, by courtesy of the W.M. Mr. T. Simpson was initiated. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren separated. There was no banquet. The Visitors were Bros. C. B. Cheen 849, Magee 548, Howe 1326, and T. H. Miller 907.

Era Lodge, Middlesex, No. 1423.—The installation meeting of this Lodge—which although young may be congratulated not only for its accession of members, but also for its successful efforts in the cause of the Masonic charities—was held on Saturday, 13th inst., at the King's Arms Hotel, Hampton Court. Bro. H. Dubois W.M. P.A.D.C. (Middlesex), Baldwin S.W., J. B. Langley J.W., T. J. Sabine P.G.S.B. (Middlesex) P.M. Treasurer, F. Walters P.G.P. (Middlesex) Secretary, J. S. Sweasey S.D., S. Wulff J.D., E. W. Devereux I.G., A. F. Loos M.C., B. Wright W.S., Rev. P.M. Holden Chaplain, J. T Moss P.G.R. I.P.M., &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. J. Mason was elected a joining member. Bro. J. W. Baldwin S.W. and W.M. elect was duly installed into the chair by Bro. T. J. Sabine P.M. in a very perfect manner. Bro. Holden P.G.C. (Middlesex) delivered the charges. The W.M. having been saluted according to ancient form, invested his officers: Bros. E. H. Threllay S.W., J. B. Langley J.W., Rev. P. M. Holden Chaplain, T. J. Sabine P.M. Treasurer, re-appointed, F. Walters P.G.P. re-appointed Secretary, E. W. Devereux S.D., S. Wolff J.D., T. H. Miller P.M. Organist, A. F. Loos I.G., B. Wright M.C., Simmons W.S., Matthews C.S., Gilbert Tyler. A very elegant gold Past Master's Jewel was presented, in the name of the Lodge, to Bro. H. Dubois I.P.M., for the efficient manner he had discharged the duties of his office during the past year. Sums of ten guineas were voted to the Boys' School, ten guineas to the Girls' School, and £10 to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and the Widows of Freemasons, in the name of the W.M. for the time being, making the Lodge a Life Governor of all the above charities in perpetuity. The following brethren were recommended by the audit committee, and approved by the Lodge, for Provincial Grand honours to the R.W. Col. F. Burdett P.G.M. (Middlesex), viz., Bro. H. Dubois I.P.M., T. J. Sabine and the Rev. Bro. Holden, Chaplain. The Lodge was then closed, after which the brethren sat down to a sumptuous banquet. The usual toasts followed. The visitors were Bro. G. Pymm P.M. 749 and W.M. 1275, S. R. Ade P.M. 315, H. Andrews 781, J. H. Spencer 73, Horton 871, F. H. Peacock 21, J. H. Ryley 188, W. Hammond P.G.S. (Middlesex) W.M. 1512.

Halsey Lodge, No. 1479, St. Albans.—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, 17th February, at the Town Hall, St. Albans. Bro. J. Lowthin W.M., H. Edwards S.W., Askew J.W. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of last meeting were read by Bro. I. Edwards, Secretary, and unanimously confirmed. The W.M. then proceeded to initiate Messrs. George Robert Hall and Henry Alexander Taylor. After the usual routine business, the Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the "Peahen," where a most liberal banquet was done ample justice to, and a pleasant evening was spent.

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Printed and Published for the Freemason's Chronicle Publishing Company Limited, by Brother WILLIAM WRAY MORGAN, at 67 Barbican, E.C. Saturday, 20th February 1875.

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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. I.—No. 9. SATURDAY, 27th FEBRUARY 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

IS ARCHITECTURE A LOST ART?

IT is not many years since Mr. Ruskin published the first edition of "The Stones of Venice," but already that wonderful work has done much to influence the tastes and habits of thought of the English people. The Gothic revival, which is one of the remarkable phenomena of the age, may indeed be traced to other sources, and so far as English architects are concerned they have not followed Mr. Ruskin in his enthusiastic admiration of the foreign styles. His great work, however, helped the English public to understand something of the "motive" of true architecture, and some of the members of the profession are slowly beginning to unlearn many of the absurd ideas with reference to the dignity of their branch of the art, and are learning to feel a little respect for the man who has been called by fortune to handle the trowel. If we venture to assert that Architecture is a lost art, many of our readers will possibly be inclined to join issue with us. Yet many men in these days, whose genius has helped to rear numerous imposing piles, would be ready enough to agree with us. We have a host of so-called architects, men who are versed in the "styles" and "orders," who are skilled in mathematics, who are familiar with the strength of the materials, and could as readily prepare plans for a Gothic Cathedral (!) as for a pile of waterside warehouses. We do not deny that the art of using the drawing board and the T square has reached a very high pitch of perfection. The walls of the Royal Academy are covered each season with elevations and prospective views of projected works, and these are always so pretty and "picture like" that they usually excite a buzz of admiration from the well dressed visitors who crowd around to examine them. We are rapidly rebuilding London in substantial stone, and the great provincial towns are following our example. Yet, with all this activity, and all these signs of life and apparent vigour, we are constrained to say that Architecture is still in the days of its decline and fall, and, so far as we know, the master mind, or rather the master mason, has not yet arisen who can teach us its true secret. Buildings are designed without motive or feeling; a certain space has to be roofed over, and a certain style has to be selected. The architect knows nothing practically of masonry, and he would stare if any one were to ask if he had ever laid one stone upon another. He is an advocate for the dignity, or rather the gentility of art. Practical masonry is, he thinks, the mere business of the working man. He is to elaborate upon paper, while the builder puts his ideas into solid stone or brick. The result of this modern system is seen in the acres of perfectly lifeless structures which are supposed to adorn our streets. The real master mason has vanished from the building world, or he has been turned by our wonderful modern civilisation into a kid-gloved dandy who occasionally condescends to examine the progress of the work he has designed, and who goes back to his office to draw up a builder's certificate. Now we venture to say that it was not in this way that the great buildings of the ancient world were erected. If we examine any of the old churches which have escaped the cruel hands of restoration committees, we are at once struck by the marks of character which they exhibit. The very stones seem to be alive. The carved work may seem rude, but it bears conspicuous marks of individuality about it. We see at once that the figures which adorn the capitals of the columns came hot, so to speak, from the mind of the artist, and were at once transferred by his chisel to the stone. We know that the master mason must have had a hand in the business, and that he was a skilled workman, who knew how to handle the mallet and level, and was proud of his skill. We know that the men who planned these ancient buildings worked at them with their own hands, and this fact at once enables us to understand why they interest us so deeply. We read the mind of the workman in the record of stone he has left behind him. His thought is in it, and he loved his work. He, perhaps, knew nothing of theories, and was entirely ignorant of the so-called "styles," but built, as it were, by instinct. He knew nothing of the archæology of his business, and was never troubled with the vague fear, that a window here or a moulding there were not quite in harmony with the rest of his plans. However far back we may examine the history of architecture, we find evident traces of the master mason. The early Gothic churches were, in all probability, built without the aid of any elaborate plans. The builders understood perfectly what they were about, and piled their stones on each other much as a bird builds its nest. Later in the history of the style the influence of the drawing board and T square is plainly visible. The simple forms of the art workmen were elaborated and "improved." All sorts of structural devices were added to support vaulted roofs without the aid of solid wood "veils," as Mr. Ruskin calls them, and the Gothic church in the florid period became a sort of elaborate stone frame for the display of acres of stained glass. That wonderful contrivance, the flying buttress, was carried to such excess, in the days of the decadence of Gothic art, that many Continental buildings, when viewed at a distance, actually seem as if the scaffolding had not been removed from the walls. It was the master mason who invented the pinnacle, but he had no idea of making this a mere ornamental feature. Its original office was to give, by its downward pressure, additional stability to the buttress which supported the roof. The original "motive" of the pinnacle has, however, been forgotten or ignored, and we now find it perched upon conspicuous points of a building where it can have no structural function to perform, and it is commonly covered with unmeaning ornament, and degraded to the rank of a mere decorative feature. The ancient master mason, in all probability, did not know how to draw at all. He was a constructor in the true sense of the word, and such decoration as he was pleased to place upon his buildings was, as we have said, struck at once from the mind and transferred to the stone. No thoughtful man can examine medieval sculpture without becoming conscious of this fact. The wild grace of the work, its evident carelessness and the wonderful variety it exhibits, all tend to show that the sculptor was putting his mind into it. In these days, however, we manage to decorate our buildings on a different principle. The architect first of all draws his design upon paper, and from this a clay model is prepared, from which a plaster cast is taken. A so-called sculptor is now called in, for the purpose of transferring the design to the stone. His work is merely mechanical; he has no sympathy with the ideas he is called upon to interpret, and in place of trying to give life and individuality to the design, he aims at mere literal accuracy. The result of course is, as every one conversant with the subject knows, that the decorative features of our modern buildings are utterly uninteresting, and generally unmeaning. The very perfection of mechanical skill possessed by the sculptor is injurious to his work. The elder Pugin, who was one of the few modern masters of Gothic, had infinite difficulty, in the early days of the revival, in

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training these so-called art workmen. He could not get them to understand that breadth of treatment was essential to success in decorative work, and that elaborate and life-like detail was but a sign of ignorance and degradation. Many years have passed since Pugin set forth the true principles of Gothic sculpture to his astonished "carvers," and so far as we know the art has not made any very great progress. The architect still designs, while the journeyman copies, and for one man who is able to make his chisel speak his own thoughts we have a host of workmen who can copy with literal accuracy every leaflet of an elaborate piece of tracery, or every detail of some unmeaning crocket or pinnacle. We are strongly of opinion that we shall never see true and life-like architecture until the function of the master mason is again recognised. But unhappily the whole spirit of the age conspires to prevent anything like a revolution in the greatest art to which the ingenuity of man can be directed. A well educated youth, with constructive or art instincts, would never dream, in these days of gentility, of putting on an apron and taking to the mallet and chisel. If his tastes lie in the direction of architecture he enters an architect's office, and draws plans and elevations, and he fancies he has learned his noble calling when he can successfully copy an ancient building which in all probability was erected by men who could not read. He becomes in fact a mere copyist and theorist; he has no true feeling for his profession, and no knowledge of its capabilities. He can tell us accurately the date of an ancient moulding, and he can piece together the various details he has picked up in the course of his studies. But he cannot create, and he cannot give meaning and dignity to his work. Enthusiasts who have caught some of the spirit of the Ancient Masons sometimes astonish us by their dreams of a "nineteenth century style," which shall as fully satisfy the requirements of this age as that of the thirteenth satisfied all the requirements of the past. We may indeed dream of a style of our own, but it will never be anything else but a dream, while the men who lay the stones, and the men who design the work, are separated by a great and impassable gulf. If we might venture into the region of speculation, we should, with all diffidence, suggest that our brethren would be carrying out the spirit of the principles upon which Freemasonry is founded, if they were to turn their attention to this subject, and endeavour to make practical masonry once more the great and living art, which it undoubtedly was in those distant ages, when the members of the Craft were both the builders and the designers of the works upon which they expended their genius.

MASONIC MINSTRELSY.

IN a former article we offered a few pertinent remarks on the character of Masonic Minstrelsy. We were not, perhaps, as complimentary as we might have been, nor, for reasons that seemed good to us at the time, did we think it worth our while to discuss very critically the productions of Masonic poets. The subject has, however, been again brought under our notice, and, partly to make amends for our previous shortcomings, partly with a view to encourage a higher class of song, we now propose laying before our readers a few notes on sundry of the contents of the *Masonic Vocal Manual*, which we believe is the latest compilation of Masonic poetry extant. These notes may seem, perhaps, a little disjointed; this is due to our study of the work having been necessarily somewhat disconnected, owing to the demand upon our time by this and more important matters.

We confessed, in the course of our previous observations, that this Manual is somewhat disappointing. The first song is from the pen of Robert Burns, sometime W.M. of the Tarbolton Lodge. Others there are by such well-known writers as Dibdin and Cunningham. Of the rest, a very few—such, for example, as No. 69, by Bro. Noorthouk, and the 1st Ode, by Bro. Dunckerley—are worthy a place in the same volume with the preceding. But these, alone almost, can properly be described as poetical. The rest are the veriest rigmarole which human ingenuity ever twisted into the form of verse. Nearly all the songs—and we have had the patience to read some fifty or sixty of them—are the most senseless, and the feeblest twaddle ever written. Nearly all are ungrammatical; in nearly all the most astounding liberties are taken with the Queen's English. In place of rhythm, we have mere word-jingling, to which the clatter of tongs, or of marrow-bones and cleavers, would seem to be the most divine music. We wish it were otherwise, but we should be faithless to our duty if we did not state boldly that ninety out of every hundred of these songs, odes, and ballads are hardly fit to be thrown into the waste paper basket, while of the rest, only a very, very few are worth preserving and handing down to future generations of the Craft. That we have not overstated the case the following remarks will prove.

We have said the opening song is by Burns, which it were impertinent, perhaps, to criticise. Suffice it that in every line we hear the ring of the true metal. We feel intuitively that we are reading real poetry. But what have we in No. 3—Air, *Derry Down*—which, be it remarked, seems somewhat of a favourite? In the first verse the poet invokes the attention of his audience, and describes his theme in these lines:—

> All you who love order, attend to my song;
> And if you'll be patient, I'll not keep you long:
> 'Tis of Heads and of Bodies I now mean to sing,
> For a Head without Body 's a very strange thing.
> Derry down, &c.

It is customary, no doubt, for a poet to invoke some goddess or the muses to smile kindly on his efforts. But the worst of it is the goddess or the muses often refuse to smile. This has clearly been the case in the instance before us. By a strong effort of the will we may possibly manage to extract some *amusement*—we hope our readers will excuse the word-play—from the poem, but the kind of amusement would not be very flattering to the author's self-respect. The lines are arranged in the form of a verse; "long" rhymes to "song," and "thing" to "sing," but this is all we find of poetry in it. Nor is the theme a very appropriate one. We should rather sing of Heads and Bodies in a dissecting room than in a Lodge. Or, perchance, the Head and Body referred to are—the one the froth, the other the strength, of a flagon of good ale or wine. But we fear the poet was a little too prosy by nature to think of this. We know a pretty ballad, the first stanza of which runs:—

> Gin a body meet a body
> Coming through the rye,
> Gin a body kiss a body
> Need a body cry?

There is a body of sense in this, and of poetry too. But our Masonic friend's bodies are very cumbersome and angular. Then, the logic in the second verse is on a par with the poetry of the whole song. We are told:—

> If the Master cries "Order!" no more 's to be said,
> Which proves very clearly that he is the Head.

In the third line of the fourth verse, the poet's unfortunate "head" gets most inconveniently in the way of the sense and the scansion too, so we have given an italic character to the sons of Britain:—

> May her sons ride triumphantly *head* o'er the waves.

The writer of No. 17 has also set his words to the Air of *Derry Down*. This poet has evidently very feeble ideas of rhyming, or, to put it more clearly, he takes great liberties with sound. Thus "ear" rhymes with "care," "hundred" with "number'd," "loads" with "records." The following extracts will show that this song will most fitly be described as shockingly bad prose gone mad. As for anything like rhythm, the writer has as much idea of it as a bull. He thus describes the building of the Temple:—

> One hundred and fifty-three thousand six hundred
> Employed for the Temple, we find they were number'd;
> With Crafts many thousands, and bearers of loads,
> And Masters six hundred, say Scripture records.
> Derry down, &c.
>
> They form'd themselves all into Lodges, they say,
> Some east and some west, some north and south way:
> In love and truth still they go happily on,
> In all well-governed countries under the sun.
> Derry down, &c.

We believe it was the eccentric Rev. Rowland Hill who had the hymns in his chapel sung to popular tunes, urging as a reason for this unusual practice that he did not see why the Devil should have all the good tunes. In the case of this and other songs in the *Masonic Vocal Annual*, which are set to popular airs, we think the Devil must

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have good grounds for complaining of the abuse of tunes popularly—but no doubt erroneously—believed to be his favourites.

A notable instance in which grammar is sacrificed to rhyme will be found on page 46, as italicised by us:—

Freemasons all from Pole to Pole,
May love unite, and truth control;
If sorrows come *what can condole;*
Our griefs like Masonry?

Nor is the meaning of the concluding line of the last verse very apparent—

And when the spirit hence has fled,
May angels o'er their pinions spread,
And crown with bliss each Mason's head
With heavenly Masonry.

"Them's our sentiments," no doubt; but we are in a fog as to whether the angels are invited to spread themselves over their pinions—a somewhat difficult task, we should imagine—or their pinions over themselves.

Song 46 has something in it of Dr. Watts's style. The third verse begins—

Then let no angry passions raise
Bad humour in your breast.

The words seem suggestive of pimples or sores, and as the words are meant to be sung to the tune of *The Spotted Cow*, it may be the poet is invoking the aid of vaccination against the small-pox. "Bad humour" is not very poetical, nor "dirty humour" in the previous verse. The last two stanzas are worth quoting, the rhythm is so good—

Now a good will to Masonry,
I give freely from my heart;
And the brethren in Society,
Though ever so far apart.

Here's a health to our Worthy Grand,
And Worshipful likewise;
And when in Lodge they give command,
May the Craft in duty rise.

We fear "the worshipful" must have been suffering from an attack of gout, for he moves haltingly—at least in the place assigned him here.

The writer of Song 64 is a bold man, if not a poetical. He begins by plunging headlong into the remotest ages.

It was Hiram, the great Architect,
Whose actions ever will shine bright;
Solomon, who wisely did project,
In Masonry took much delight.

What Solomon "wisely did project," the poet vouchsafes not to tell us. We should have had a footnote, "Temple—understood." But this writer goes even further back than the days of Solomon, for later on he sings:—

When Adam was King of all Nations,
He formed a plan with all speed,
And soon made a sweet habitation
For himself and his partner Eve.

When Adam did this he was indubitably "King of all Nations," just as, and for the same reason that, Robinson Crusoe, on his uninhabited island, was "Monarch of all he surveyed." In fact, Adam and his "partner Eve" were "all nations." But what puzzles us most in this song is the rhyming. Ostensibly the lines rhyme alternately, but the poet, with the licence of his art, makes them do so or not, just as is most convenient. Thus "architect" and "project" rhyme together; not so "Mason" and "Morality," "level" and "beggar" (devil, in a good-natured sense, as in "you funny little devil!" would have suited admirably in place of "beggar"), "square" and "sincere," "action" and "compass," "fire" and "secrets."

In song 68—Air, *Come all Hands ahoy to the Anchor*—the poet is also in love with Solomon, "that wise projector," and Hiram; but having a more decent regard for rhyme, though little for the English language, he describes the latter as "that great architector." We might, of course, go on multiplying these instances of slipshod grammar, new-coined words, careless rhythm, impossible rhymes, and generally, this silly balderdash. But we have a regard for our readers' patience, as well as for the value of the limited space at our disposal. We close, therefore, this article with a song quoted *in extenso*. With a view to testing whether the institution of new lines for certain of the original would materially affect the sense of this effusion, we have supplied readings of our own, which will be found printed in italics, while the original lines are given in a footnote. The result, in our opinion is, that not only have we not in the slightest degree altered the poet's meaning, but we flatter ourselves we have even improved it.

SONG 106.

Tho' my voice can't enchant like the Syrens of old,
I'll venture your ears to assail;
The attempt do not deem too intruding or bold,—
*Will you please take a glass of pale ale?**
Of the compact which binds proud ambition and pow'r,
My poor simple lays never dream;
But that which for ages true friendship has wore—
*I'm a begger to get up the steam!**

Chorus:

Then join my song, brothers! the sentiment pass,
*No harm's in a drop of good liquor;**
Fill higher—affection presides o'er the glass,
"May Free-Masonry flourish for ever."

Their pillows of rectitude ne'er will decay;
Honour's temple's erected on high;
And Architect Truth does a building display
*In the form of a veal and ham pie!**
I flattery scorn, it to falsehood gives birth;
But rapture the deed must impart,
Which bids soft humanity patronise worth,—
*A light crust is the best for a tart!**

Chorus: Then join, &c.

Let sensual drones to rich viands invite,
Or tempt to gay Bacchus's board,
One moment of feeling will give more delight
*Than wine, beer, or spirits afford!**
To wipe from the eye the big tears of distress!
Infant gratitude view fondly shown!
To blessings bestow, sure the donor must bless,
*Who is fond of a game o' Pope Joan!**

N.B.—Observe the "pillows" in verse 2, which we suppose are intended to be "pillars!"

We have retained the poet's sentiments in all their pristine beauty, the only liberty we have taken has been, as we have said, slightly to alter a few lines, thereby, perhaps, adding to his song a dignity it knew not before.

Thus have we striven to deal with the subject of "Masonic Minstrelsy" from a jovial point of view. We trust our readers will believe that none of our criticisms are intended to be, even in the remotest degree, ill-natured. But, seriously, we should like to see and hear, and—even though our voice may possibly compare with the sound of a fiddle out of tune—join in a good Masonic song. May some poetic brother be moved to satisfy this want!

A FEW WORDS ON AMERICAN MASONRY.

LAST week we published a letter from Bro. Hughan, in which, in his usually courteous manner, he questioned the accuracy of certain remarks of ours in our opening number on the above subject. We may perhaps have occasion to deal with the question in some future issue. Meanwhile, lest our correspondent should imagine that silence, even for a brief period, is an indication of our assent to his arguments, we meet him briefly now on the grounds selected by himself.

1. Says Bro. Hughan:—"As to 'outlay and Masonic architecture' the 'new country' is much ahead of the 'old,' and so that may be taken as indicative of the hearty co-operation of the American fraternity in seeking to provide homes and temples worthy of the Craft, and suitable for the working of our solemn ceremonies." Admitted, but it does not follow that the American fraternity as heartily co-operate in the fulfilment of their other and far more important duties as Masons. A. builds himself a magnificent house, and all the appointments are in keeping. This indicates A.'s respect for the class or rank he belongs to, but it follows not that because

* In the original
"Good humour 'tis meant to exhale."
"Freemasonry's compact 's my theme."
"No harm 's in an honest endeavour."
"Of virtue, can't moulder or die."
"And light make the sad orphan's heart."
"Than ages of mirth can afford."
"Whose heart is humanity's throne."

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he has shown this respect to his order, he fulfils all his obligations either to the society in which he moves or Society in general.

2. The question of parade and show may, as Bro. Hughan suggests, "resolve itself into a *matter of opinion*." Doubtless, all people will not hold the same views as to what constitutes ostentatious "parade, glitter, show and extravagance." There is this to be said in favour of our view. The Americans love display, not in things Masonic only, but in general. Love of show, of finery, of rich jewelry, of high-sounding titles is an American "proclivity," on which we are not the only journal that has commented freely. Englishmen on the other hand are naturally averse from show.

3. On the subject of Masonic Charities in the United States we may remark, that we never imagined, nor was it our intention to suggest, that American Masonry did not lend itself to the deeds of Charity. The tenour of our argument was simple enough. American Masons love fine architecture and ostentatious display, but where, by comparison with this outward show, is the love for Masonic Charity? Where are the institutions for distressed Masons, for orphans, for widows? Bro. Hughan cites three particular cases, and no doubt, as he says, had he the time, he could instance many more. All honour to the Masons of Kentucky, of Pennsylvania, of Louisiana for the splendid efforts they have made in this direction! But it must be borne in mind, that in the United States there are said to be thirty-seven Grand Lodges, and considerably over half-a-million of brethren. To quote Bro. Hughan's words, "In the United States alone there are about eight times as many subscribing members as in this country." In England—we submit the statement with all respect to Bro. Hughan and our readers generally—we have less gorgeous temples, less "parade, glitter, show and extravagance," than are to be found in the United States, but the three annual festivals for the Benevolent Institution and the Institution for Boys and Girls respectively yield an aggregate sum of little short of £20,000 or 100,000 dollars. This, be it remembered, represents only the sum of the collections at these annual festivals, apart from other contributions from the Craft during the rest of the year, and apart likewise from other sums dispensed in charities. We have taken no account of local efforts in the same beneficent work, nor have we referred to the invested funds of the Benevolent and Girls' Institutions. One more fact and we have done. In the Report of the Boys' Institution, published last June, the building expenditure for that Institution, to 31st December 1870, is stated at over £47,116; and in the account for 1873 there appears a further expenditure just exceeding £2,314. Here, then, we have a sum of nearly £50,000, or 250,000 dollars, expended on behalf of this one school.

Having thus justified, as we believe, our previous statements, it only remains for us to add that we shall sincerely welcome every evidence of Masonic charity in the United States. We do not doubt they will fulfil generally, as Bro. Hughan has shown they do in specific instances, their duties in this respect both as Men and Masons. But we cannot say we think they have done all it lies in their obligation to do, as yet. There is this to be said on behalf of American Masonry, cases of pressing distress are *immediately* relieved.

DIONYSIAN ARTIFICERS.*

THIS little work may be regarded as, so to speak, the Holy Grail of Masonry. Although it was written only forty-five years ago, it is so scarce that the bibliomaniac may almost look in vain for a copy of it. The late Dr. Crucefix, the projector of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, made diligent search for the work during twelve years, and died without success. He had the highest opinion of its value. Mr. R. Spencer sought in vain for it from 1848 until 1872, and we are indebted to the kindness of his son, Mr. W. Spencer, for the loan of the copy which lies before us. It is, we believe, the only work in which are summarised the proofs of the resemblance of Freemasonry to the mysteries of Dionysus. The author accurately quotes the authorities for his facts and opinions, and to this circumstance, as well as to the clear and concise style in which he has condensed a vast mass of unique information, the work owes much of its fame. In these days, when a taste for speculative Masonry has been excited by the labours of modern philologists and archæologists, a reprint of the work would be of the greatest value to the student. We are proud to admit that a few learned and enthusiastic brethren are toiling with us in the congenial field of speculative research, and to those who desire to trace for themselves the fragments of the Dionysian mysteries, which are scattered through the literature of Greece and Rome, this little work would prove an invaluable guide. Mr. Da Costa, the author, must have been a man of profound learning, and of large and liberal ideas. His fragmentary sketch was written at a time when anything like a just appreciation of the mythology or religion of ancient Egypt or Greece was very rare. It was the common opinion of men who passed for authorities that the system of ethics, which guided the wonderful people who flourished for so many ages ago on the banks of the Nile, was a degraded one, that their religion was a jumble of immoral fables and pseudo science, and that the gross degradation into which the Hellenic tribes sank was to be ascribed to the influence of their so-called superstitions upon the minds of the people. Even in these days of comparative toleration and enlightenment we occasionally come across a writer who is ignorant enough to confess his belief in the gross "paganism" of the ancient Egyptians, and the pulpit still resounds with the fierce denunciations of their supposed spiritual darkness. Mr. Da Costa traces the ancient sun worship to a people living as far north as latitude 66°, in fact to the Atlantides, and thus raises the question which has so long troubled the minds of the learned, as to whether an island or continent, once the seat of civilisation, has or has not been submerged by the sea. Atlantis is assumed by some writers to be the continent of America, and the significant fact that in Mexico archæological remains and a system of picture writing, similar to that which prevailed in Egypt, have been found, would appear to give some colour to the theory. That sun worship originated with a people where the great luminary of day was but a fitful visitant would appear to be a feasible idea, and its development southward in America and Asia may possibly be ultimately traced. Scythia, that mystic region of the ancient Greeks, appears to the author to be the original seat of this worship. To the Greeks Scythia was regarded as the earth's remotest boundary, and readers of Æchylus will remember that he lays the scene of the binding and punishment of the fabled Prometheus in this portion of the world. It was there that the great and benevolent Titan was fixed to the rock. It was there that the bird of Jove made daily onslaught upon the helpless teacher of the arts and sciences. The suggestion that Zoroaster was a Scythian can, we think, be scarcely supported by facts, but we readily agree with the writer that the teachings of this great man may have been imported from a northern clime. That Egypt was indebted to a people living east of the Nile for its religious ceremonies is, we think, a fact that will sooner or later be clearly established. That the Egyptians were Asiatic admits of no doubt. The type of face which is so familiar to all Egyptologers is not in the remotest degree African in its general outlines. The Egyptian physique is slight, and affords a singular contrast to that of the lusty negro, whose muscular frame and low order of intelligence mark him as a being of an entirely different race. We regard the Egyptians as colonists who, at a remote period, settled on the banks of the Nile, bringing with them the civilisation of Asia, and the germs of a religion which afterwards assumed a distinct type of its own. The Osirian story, the earliest known myth of Egyptian theology, which may have been derived from the Persians, lies at the root of these Eleusinian rites, which are better known to most Masonic readers as the mysteries of Dionysius or Bacchus. These consisted in the study of the sciences and useful arts, united with theology and ethics, and were communicated by cyphers or symbols. Candidates for admission were required to be of pure life, and were rigidly examined, by properly appointed persons, before initiation. The pith of the doctrine taught may be summed up in a few words. The future state of the soul, and future rewards and punishments; indeed so high an estimate had the teachers of the value of the spiritual life, that the union of the soul with the body was regarded as its death, and the death of the body its resurrection.

* "Sketch for the History of the Dionysian Artificers," a fragment, by Hyppolito Joseph Da Costa, Esq. London: Sherwood, Neely and Jones. 1820.

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In later Greek history these sublime ideas were no doubt degraded by the gross sensuality into which the Greeks had fallen, but their original purity is a fact, which no scholar will now dispute. In Rome, the depravity of those who practised the Bacchanalian mysteries was the cause of great public scandal, and some of the early Christian writers, who knew nothing of their original meaning, were able to draw up a terrible bill of indictment against the decaying civilisation, upon the surface of which these perverted ideas floated like scum. It is to a colony of Greeks, settled in Asia Minor, that we are apparently indebted for the transmission of the rites of Bacchus, allied with the scientific truths of Craft Masonry, to modern Europe. These Ionian Greeks were builders, and formed a society for the purposes of their calling. They were called the Dionysian Artificers, and they gradually spread themselves into Syria, Persia and India. They extended their moral views in conjunction with the art of building to many useful purposes, and to the practice of acts of benevolence. From Ionia or Asia Minor these artificers passed to Judea, and assisted in the building of the Temple which Solomon reared in honour of the tutelary God of Israel. We cannot, however, agree with our author in the view quoted from Josephus that these artificers introduced the Grecian style of architecture into Judea. Grecian details may undoubtedly have been used in the construction of the Temple, but its ground plan was so clearly Egyptian that we are inclined to the opinion that its main structural features were copied from the great buildings which lined the banks of the Nile. That these artificers taught the mysteries which were mixed up with Masonry to the Jews, is undoubted, and it is supposed, from references in the great work of Josephus, that the sect of Essenians, of which John the Baptist is said to have been a member, grew out of this association of the mysteries of Bacchus with the ethical ideas common to the Jew. Christianity itself appears to have been slightly tinged with the Essenian philosophy, and M. Renan has not hesitated to avow his belief that its divine founder was familiar with the dogmas of the sect. We, while holding that Christianity stands alone, and is indebted to no human system for its sublime teachings, do not deny that its pure morality, and its early theories of communism find their counterpart in the views of the devout people, who, with John for a spokesman, prepared the way for a higher teaching and broader views of the social and spiritual duties of mankind. It is needless for us to refer here to the pall of darkness which obscured all the light of the ancient world in the second and third centuries of our era. In the night of the middle ages the teachings of the ancient sages were forgotten, and it was only with the revival of learning that the few remaining fragments of their teachings were gathered together and reanimated. We here take leave of this interesting fragment, which has afforded us a text for these equally fragmentary remarks, and we cannot but regret that the work of Mr. Da Costa is so little known to our brethren and the world.

EAST, WEST, AND SOUTH.

BY A WANDERING FREEMASON.

I.

AFTER an excursion in the White Cloud Mountains; we passed three days rambling 'mid throngs of people, down narrow interminable streets, over high-stepped stone bridges, among crowded shops, glitter of pendant signboards and gilded overhanging eaves. From Temple to Temple; through Theatrical School, Examination Hall and Execution Ground; with the five hundred Genii; in the Temple of Horrors; at the great Clepsydra, and round the city walls; till wonders almost ceased to excite us, and brain indigestion ensued from whirl of novelties. On this, the third day of our researches, though the kind forethought of our Mentor (in the truest sense a *guide, philosopher, and friend*) had provided us with substantial luncheon in the "Temple of Longevity," we were moreover, perplexed with the metaphysical speculations which much of the lore disclosed to us had suggested. On that morning we had seen what few have gazed upon—*the sleeping Buddh;* in the still adytum of an ancient Temple, reverently enshrined amid congenial adornments the figure lay, head resting on one arm in hushed repose, waiting for his next Avatar. Before the gigantic triple-idols which symbolise him as the Eternal Omnipresent, our Mentor had held converse with the aged priests, and had sought to make clear to us the grand Philosophy veiled thus in imagery of Past, Present, and Future, crowned with that sublime *Nirvana*, the loftiest conception of the human soul.

Only last year, in 1874, was first declared to the European public, by a distinguished Orientalist, how elevated is that old Philosophy; how undeserving of the obloquy cast on it by students who but entered the porch without passing the veil; how different the subtleties of its esoteric, from the vulgar superstitions of its exoteric phase. Instead of a gross notion of souls transmigrating from body to body, through Matter; from man, mayhap, to beasts and herbs, a scientific allegory adapted to common understanding; we listened, awe-struck, to a time-old legend of the origin of souls, of strife between Spirit and Matter—Light and Darkness—of a return through probations to pristine purity, a metempsychosis from sphere to sphere, from celestial mission to celestial mission; of progressive sanctification and of the glorious end—final absorption into Deity. And this was no modern system, no fantastic ideal of a sage Gautâma (successor of prior Avatars) but had been the general creed of Asia, as it was of so-called prehistoric Europe; whose votaries yet exceed those of any other, taught from the beginning of Time.

Again—with different reflections, upon the thirst of the million for appeals to the *lower* faculties, and upon the inevitable degradation of all Theosophy when mummified as doctrine of a privileged Priesthood, we had stood beside the rock on which, said a cowled and shaven monk, "Gautâma, 'ere his ascension, left the print of his foot! There, scooped in the stone, was the perfect impress of a gigantic foot, perfect to the moulding of the heel, the hollow of the instep, the concaves of the ball and under the toes: a perfect representation. No psychic awe stole over us, nor did any intuition warn to doff our hats or to put off our shoes, as though we stood on holy ground.

And now—the Sun had set: the gloaming spread over the landscape as we emerged from one of the City gates. Not only we, but our bearers, were fatigued; still our Mentor directed them not homewards, but urged them on.

On a narrow path, across a level landscape of partially-submerged fields, we descried looming before us a sombre grove of Cypress behind a crumbling wall. We skirted an angle and halted before a huge gateway. A damp noisome influence pervaded the atmosphere, and at our feet grew masses of dank weed in foul luxuriance. Soon an iron ring was found, which being pulled provoked in contrast with the outer stillness so sharp a clang, seeming to reverberate down endless corridors and in the bowels of the earth, that our nerves, already overtasked, were startled with a nameless fear. No response appeared, and the summons was repeated several times.

No explanation of whither we were going had been given: only boundless confidence in our friend prevented us from expressing a desire to leave this ill-omened spot. Reminiscence of Dante, at the portal of the underworld, with Virgil by his side, occurred to us.

"Lasciate ogni speranza, voi ch'intrate."

At length a dark postern opened, and a decrepit porter admitted us by the flaring light of a pitch-torch, flourished aloft. As we stepped in and discerned a silent street of closed one-storied houses, from whose dim lattices and chinks of massive doorways stole steady glints of light into the weird shadows around, our Mentor turned with solemn aspect, and in subdued tone bade us welcome to

THE CITY OF THE DEAD

Lost in amazement, we could answer nothing, and our guide signed to the torchbearer to lead on. We followed up the street, from which dark visions of others spread out at right angles in sepulchral quietude, and across which our footfalls seemed to echo with unwonted harshness. Of one of the larger houses our guide threw open the door, and disclosed a hall dimly lit by tapers in each corner; in the centre, a huge sarcophagus whose embroidered coverlet fell in folds upon the floor: round it stood guards, each leaning on his halberd, motionless and mute, their gaze riveted on the object before them. Banners and tapestry covered with strange emblems, adorned the walls and flapped as we entered at the door. A thin spiral streak of smoke rose

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from a large bronze incense-burner placed before an altar at the end, on which stood black and red tablets, telling in letters of gold, the virtues, rank and ancestry of the departed. The flickering torchlight served to heighten the mysterious impressiveness of the scene. Were we in some place under a spell, such as that to which Aladdin descended; or such as the Bedaween say yet sleeps with Shedàd the mighty, in the great desert; or were we still in the working world, whose cool night air refreshed us on emerging from the pungent aroma of this dwelling of the dead?

We left, and the ponderous bolts were shot back into their sockets, which yet had not kept sacred the privacy of their owner from foreign eyes. We entered another mansion, and were confronted on the threshold by two monstrous figures, of hideous and terrible aspect, glaring menacingly at us, holding naked swords. The same sarcophagus, mute guards, banners, incense and ancestral tablets, with but slight variety of colouring and symbolism. On another occasion we should have been eager to continue our visits until we had viewed a number of these wondrous spectacles; but sustained mental excitement had succumbed to physical fatigue. We derived but dazed impressions, forced as they were upon wearied cerebra; the two young ladies of our party were worn out, so we turned, yet with a half reluctance, to retrace our steps.

The "City of the Dead" is situate outside the East Gate of Canton. Every Chinaman cherishes a rooted devotional yearning, that his bones may be laid with the remains of his forefathers in his ancestral earth: a foreign grave has more terror for him than death. The latter is but the portal of transition to a state better or worse in strict ratio to his works; the former implies a severance of ties, a break of ancestral connection, a divorcement from the influences which bare and reared him, and with which he is taught that he will remain "en rapport" when he shall "have shuffled off this mortal coil." This sentiment is at the root of the discontent expressed by the best-treated Coolies in our West Indian possessions; during years of thrift they may save sufficient to repatriate themselves, but the horror of the fear of being buried in a distant land weighs with them like *Nostalgia* with the Swiss. A fleet of vessels is engaged in a lucrative and increasing carrying traffic from San Fransisco to the ports of China, and the freight they bear consists of thousands of dead Chinamen, each in his unwieldy coffin, for certificated interment by surviving relatives in his native earth. Of the wealthy who die in the great city, numbers have come from many provinces of the large Empire: this is the place where, on the demise of one of them, a house is rented and his body laid together with the symbols of his attributes and insignia, until his distant relatives can arrange for conveyance, along some branch of the great canal system of China, to his childhood's home. The guards are wooden, lifelike in execution; the hideous figures those of Genii usually seen within the porches of the Temples. Our Mentor was the well known and deservedly respected Archdeacon Grey, whose collection of Chinese art (over which I passed pleasant hours in the quiet parsonage at Sha-Meen) is now familiar to visitors of the Crystal Palace; the oldest foreign resident of Canton; the kindest host and most instructive guide through the mazes of a city with whose every corner he is familiar, that the fortunate traveller could desire.

WALTER SPENCER.

ROYAL ALBERT HALL CONCERTS.—St. David's Day will be celebrated by a Welsh Festival Concert at the Royal Albert Hall, on which occasion the members of the Principality residing in London and the suburbs will have a thoroughly national programme presented to them. Miss Edith Wynne, Miss Lizzie Evans, Miss Marian Williams, Miss Mary Davies, Madame Patey, Mr. Edward Lloyd, Mr. Ap Herbert and Mr. Lewis Thomas are announced as vocalists; Miss Bessie M. Waugh, Mr. W. H. Thomas and Mr. Brinley Richards presiding at the pianoforte. A Band of Harps, under the direction of Mr. John Thomas, will also assist, and the Part-Song Choir of the Royal Albert Hall Choral Society, under Mr. Barnby's direction, will contribute Welsh Choruses and Part-Songs. The next Popular Ballad Concert at the Royal Albert Hall is to take place on Saturday evening the 27th inst., with Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, Miss Edith Wynne, Miss Antoinette Sterling, Mr. Edward Lloyd and Mr. Thurley Beale as vocalists.

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REVIEWS.

All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, 67 Barbican, E.C.

—:o:—

Shakespeare Commentaries. By Dr. G. G. Gervinus, Professor at Heidelberg. Translated, under the author's superintendence, by F. E. Bunnett. New Edition, revised by the Translator. London: Smith, Elder and Co., 15 Waterloo-place.

SECOND NOTICE.

SHAKESPEARE'S dramatic poetry is classed, by Dr. Gervinus, under three heads. The first includes Titus Andronicus and Pericles, the three parts of Henry VI., the Comedy of Errors, and Taming of the Shrew. The second embraces I.—Love-plays, that is, "those of an essentially erotic purport, the central point of which is formed by the passions and the deeds of love,"—These are The Two Gentlemen of Verona, Love's Labour's Lost, All's Well that Ends Well, Midsummer Night's Dream, Romeo and Juliet—and The Merchant of Venice; II.—Historical plays, including all save one (Henry VIII.) which Shakspeare produced after Henry VI.: III.—Comedies, The Merry Wives of Windsor, As You Like It, Much Ado about Nothing, and Twelth Night; IV.—Sonnets. The third period comprises, Measure for Measure, Cymbeline, The Tempest, The Winter's Tale; eight tragedies, Othello, Hamlet, Macbeth, King Lear, &c.; Troilus and Cressida; and the remaining historical play, Henry VIII. To give a just idea of the results of the author's labours in his synopses of these dramas, covering, as they necessarily do, so wide a field of study and research, were well-nigh impossible in the narrow limits of a review. We must leave it to our readers to minutely judge for themselves of the value of these labours, nor have we the slightest misgiving as to the result of the examination, which cannot be otherwise than in the highest degree favourable. The work is certainly a bulky one, and in parts, perhaps, our readers will find the business of studying it somewhat laborious. The criticisms deal with pretty nearly everything that is worth criticising, descending even to the minutest points of detail, though often these so-called minor points throw infinite light upon the character and purpose of the author. Unusual patience is necessary, in order to master such elaborate theses, and we almost question if many will be found to exhibit this patience. Or, if they possess it, it is more than probable that the time at their disposal for studies so attractive, and so exacting, will prove insufficient. However this may be, our further remarks will be limited to illustrations of the author's style of handling his subject, and for this purpose we shall, as suggested last week, select one or more dramas which seem likely to convey an adequate idea of these commentaries.

Though the first period, embracing seven plays, cannot fail to be interesting, as showing the early efforts of Shakespeare in dramatic literature—the efforts he made when he was as yet "more or less biassed by the peculiarities" of the then condition of dramatic poetry as described in the preceding chapter on "The Stage"—when, in fact, he was as yet only "a subject scholar," and before he had disengaged himself "from the want of design, and from the harshness and rudeness of their productions"—though, we repeat, the reader will be sure to find in these critical inquiries much that will prove attractive reading, we have no intention of dwelling upon this portion of the work. Perhaps, however, the following contemporary testimony, which is quoted towards the end of the chapter in Henry VI. to the excellence of Shakespeare, "as a poet, an actor, and a man," may be worth reproducing. Greene, whom the author considers to have been the first author of the last two parts of Henry VI., dying in 1592, left a letter behind him, which his friend Chettle published the same year. In this letter Greene admonishes Marlow, Lodge, and Peele in these words:—"Base minded men all three of you, if by my misery ye be not warned; for unto none of you, like me, sought these burs to cleave; those puppets, I mean, that speak from our mouths, those anticks garnished in our colours. Is it not strange that I to whom they have all been beholding; is it not like that you, to whom they have all been beholding, shall (were ye in that case that I am now) be both of them at once forsaken? Yes, trust them not! for there is an upstart crow, beautified with our feathers, that with his "*Tiger's heart wrapped in a player's hide*," supposes he is as well able to bombast out a blank verse as the best of you; and, being an absolute *Johannes Factotum*, is, in his own conceit, the only Shake-scene in a country. Oh! that I might entreat your rare wits to be employed in more profitable courses, and let these apes imitate your past excellence, and never more acquaint them with your admirable inventions." Chettle afterwards appears to have apologised, as regards Shakespeare, for publishing the letter containing the above, in a tract entitled "Kind-heart's Dream." It states "that he was acquainted with none of them; that he cared not if he ever was acquainted with one of them, and that he had not spared another at the time as much as he had wished that he had. For he has himself seen that his demeanour was no less civil than he was distinguished in his art." Besides, he adds, "Divers of worship have reported his uprightness of dealing, which argues his honesty and his facetious grace in writing, that approves his arts."

Towards the end of his sketch of *Love's Labour's Lost* the author traces a connection between the humorous character introduced into so many of his plays and Shakespeare's own nature. The poet did not, however, to the same extent as the German Romanticists, conceive or idealise these characters. "They rest," says Gervinus, "upon a common human basis; and at the same time upon a conventional one as to time and place. They hinge especially upon the play and perversion of words; and this is the foundation for wit common to every age." In Shakespeare the conventional peculiarity is "the definite form in which this word-wit appears. This form was cultivated among the English people according to an established custom, which invested jocose conversation with the character of a regular battle." In the case of this particular play, the manner in

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which this wit and satire wage war is not Shakespeare's property; "it is universally found on the English stage, and is transferred to it directly from life." And this kind of jesting, so far as our knowledge of Shakespeare's social life enables us to judge, was met in his personal intercourse with others. The author observes:—

"Tradition speaks of Shakespeare as 'a handsome, well-shaped man, very good company, and of a very ready and pleasant and smooth wit.' At the Mermaid, in Friday-street, he associated with Beaumont, Fletcher, Selden, Ben Jonson, and other intellectual contemporaries, and there according to Beaumont, in his address to Ben Jonson, were

> "Heard words that have been
> So nimble, and so full of subtle flame,
> As if that from every one from whom they came
> Had meant to put his whole wit in a jest."

Especially famous were the meetings between Shakespeare and Ben Jonson. According to Fuller, they were accustomed to meet "like a great Spanish galleon, and an English man-of-war. Master Jonson, like the former, was built far higher in learning, solid but slow in his performances; Shakespeare, like the English man-of-war, lesser in bulk, but lighter in sailing, could turn with all tides, tack about, and take advantage of all winds, by the quickness of his wit and invention." Thus these "wit-combats" in Shakespeare's life are compared to the same image as that between Boyet and Biron in *Love's Labour's Lost*. But this "wit-combat," which was a custom of the age, often degenerated into mere senseless jeering. Shakespeare recognised this. He knew also that while "moderate cheerful jest confirmed and promoted the truth and freedom of mind," laughers by profession never pierced the surface of things. "Throughout, therefore, he has given his healthiest humourists the healthiest part of the seriousness of life as their dowry."

From the remarks on A Midsummer Night's Dream we extract the following passage, as to the apparent design of the poet in writing it.

"We have before said that the piece appears designed to be treated as a dream; not merely in outer form and colouring, but also in inner signification. The errors of that blind intoxication of the senses, which from the main point of the play, appears to us to be an allegorical picture of the errors of a life of dreams. Reason and consciousness are cast aside in that intoxicating passion as in a dream, Cupid's delight in breach of faith, and Jove's merriment at the perjury of the lovers cause the actions of those who are in the power of the God of Love to appear almost as unaccountable as the sins which we commit in a dream. We find moreover that the actions and occupations of Cupid and of the fairies throughout the piece are interwoven or alternate. And this appears to us to confirm most forcibly the intention of the poet to compare allegorically the sensuous life of love with a dream-life; the exchange of functions between Cupid and the fairies is therefore the true poetic embodiment of this comparison. In the realm of dreams is assigned to Shakespeare's fairies; they are essentially nothing else than personified dream gods, children of the fantasy, which, as Mercutio says, is not only the idle produce of decorum, but also of the caprices of superficial love."

"Vaguely, as in a dream, this significance of the fairies rests in the ancient popular belief of the Teutonic races, and Shakespeare, with the instinctive touch of genius, has fashioned the idea into exquisite form. . . . But that which Shakespeare thus received in the rough form of fragmentary popular belief he developed in his playful creation into a beautiful and regulated world. He here in a measure deserves the merit which Herodotus ascribes to Homer; as the Greek poet has created the great abode of the gods and its Olympic inhabitants, so Shakespeare has given form and place to the fairy kingdom, and with the natural creative power of genius he has breathed a soul into his merry little citizens, thus imparting a living centre to their nature and their office, their behaviour and their doings. He has given embodied form to the invisible and life to the dead, and has thus striven for the poet's greatest glory."

As to the "types of human nature which Shakespeare deemed especially suitable as the original of his fairies," these, thinks the author, may be found particularly among women of the middle and upper ranks. There are among them, he writes, "natures which are not accessible to higher spiritual necessities, which take their way through life with no serious and profound reference to the principles of morality as to intellectual objects, yet with a decided inclination and qualification for all that is beautiful, agreeable, and graceful, though without being able to reach even here the higher attainments of art. They grasp readily as occasion offers all that is tangible; they are ready, dexterous, disposed for tricks and raillery, ever skilful at acting parts, at assuming appearances, at disguises and deceptions, seeking to give a stimulant to life only by festivities, pleasures, sport, and jest. These light, agreeable, ra.yish and sylph-like natures, who live from day to day, and have no spiritual consciousness of a common object in life, whose existence is a playful dream, full of grace and embellishment, but never a life of higher aim, have been chosen by Shakespeare with singular tact as the originals from whose fixed characteristics he gave form and life to his airy fairies."

As *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is admittedly one of the most difficult of Shakespeare's plays to represent, the author closes his commentary upon it with a few appropriate remarks on acting. We shall not, having quoted so largely already, give these *in extenso*, but one or two of the remarks may be given, just for the purpose of affording our readers some idea of their pertinency. They are applied, of course, to representations on the German stage, but are none the less applicable to our stage. "When," says Gervinus, "a girl's high treble utters the part of Oberon, a character justly represented by painters with abundant beard, and possessing all the dignity of the calm ruler of this lowering world; when the rude goblin Puck is performed by an affected actress; when Titania and her suite appear in ball costume, without beauty or dignity, for ever moving about in the hopping motion of the dancing chorus, in the most offensive ballet fashion that modern unnaturalness has created, what then becomes of the secret charm of these scenes and figures which should appear in pure aërial drapery, which in this sport should retain a certain elevated simplicity, &c." Then, as to the "Middle class of mortals introduced between the fairies and the clowns, the lovers driven about by bewildering delusions, what sensation do they excite when we see them in the frenzy of passion, wandering through the wood in kid gloves, in knightly dress, conversing after the manner of the refined world, devoid of all warmth and without a breath of this charming poetry? How can knightly accoutrements suit Theseus, the kinsman of Hercules and the Amazonian Hippolyte. Certain it is that in the fantastic play of an unlimited dream, from which time and place are effaced, these characters ought not to appear in the strict costume of Greek antiquity; but still less, while one fixed attire is avoided, should we pass over to the other extreme, and transport to Athens a knightly dress and a guard of Swiss Halberdiers."

Here for the moment we must pause. The few remarks it is our intention to add must be reserved for a future occasion. We are almost afraid, indeed, that we have prolonged this notice beyond what the patience of our readers may find endurable. Our apology must be the extreme value of the book, and the extremely interesting manner in which the commentator has treated the works of our greatest poet.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All Letters and communications must be addressed to the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, *67 Barbican, London, E.C.*

BETA.—1. Much will depend on the wording of the bye-laws, on which further information should be given. The protest *after* the ballot was certainly ill-timed, but we do not see that the M.E.Z. could ignore it—once raised. II. The only way that occurs to us is to move, at the next meeting of Chapter, that the minutes of the previous meeting be not confirmed. III. Our own opinion would be governed by the special circumstances, if any, of the ballot. For our own part, we should avoid asking for a second ballot in any case. IV. We think every companion should vote, but if he wishes not to vote, he should either avoid being present or withdraw.

B.—Thanks for your communication, but it is slightly un-Masonic in tone.

P.M.—Refer to the Book of Constitutions.

E. COMPANION.—The passage is in Ben Jonson, and reads as follows:

> "'Tis the last key-stone
> That makes the Arch; the rest that there were put
> Are nothing till that comes to bind and shut.
> Then stands it a triumphant mark! then men
> Observe the strength, the height, the why and when
> It was erected; and still, walking under,
> Meet some other matter to look up at and wonder!"

CORRESPONDENCE.

All Letters must bear the name and address of the Writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.

—:o:—

THE LIFEBOAT ENDOWMENT.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASONS' CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—I have just returned from the Continent and have seen in the files of your valuable paper, that my letter on the subject of the Lifeboat Endowment Fund has provoked some discussion. I am truly glad to see the subject ventilated, and am sanguine that the Fraternity will easily raise a sum sufficient to make our own boat free for ever of the charitable donations of the general public.

In a few days I shall be in London, and will call upon you for the purpose of making some suggestions which may prove valuable. I shall be glad when, I can see you, to hand over a guinea as my contribution towards the fund.

I am, dear Sir and Bro., yours, in the Bonds of the Order,

Liverpool, 25th February. A MASTER MASON.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—With the inclemencies of winter, many afflictions will arise unless effective means for preventing or checking their course be adopted. No lingering cough, weariness and shortness of breath on slight exertion, should be permitted to continue a single day, without means being taken for their removal; more especially when remedial measures are safe, rapid and effective. These qualities are displayed in a high degree by Holloway's preparations. The Ointment, rubbed upon the skin, draws surplus blood from congested structures, and gives immediate relief to every oppressed organ concerned in the respiration and the circulation. The wholesome effect externally, aided by the alterative action of the Pills internally, dispels all danger from latent mischief.

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THE THEATRES, &c.

DRURY LANE.—REBECCA and ALADDIN.

HAYMARKET.—A FAIR ENCOUNTER, HOME and THE SERIOUS FAMILY.

ADELPHI.—This evening, at 7.0, THE LANCASHIRE LASS. At 9.0, LOST IN LONDON.

PRINCESS'S.—This evening, THE LOTTERY TICKET, THE LANCASHIRE LASS, and THE IRISH TUTOR.

LYCEUM.—At 6.30, FISH OUT OF WATER. At 7.45, HAMLET.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.0, TWENTY MINUTES WITH A TIGER. AT 7.30, THE TWO ORPHANS.

STRAND.—At 7.0, INTRIGUE. At 7.30, OLD SAILORS. At 9.15, LOO AND THE PARTY WHO TOOK MISS.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 7.45, SWEETHEARTS and SOCIETY.

GAIETY.—FAST COACH and MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM.

GLOBE.—LADY AUDLEY'S SECRET and BLUE BEARD.

ROYALTY.—At 8.0, CRYPTOCONCHOIDSYPHONOTOMATA and LA PERICHOLE.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.0, A WHIRLIGIG. At 7.45, OUR BOYS. At 10, ROMULUS AND REMUS.

CHARING CROSS.—At 7.30, MR. JOFFIN'S LATCH KEY. At 8.15, THE NEW MAGDALEN.

OPERA COMIQUE.—At 7.30, OPERETTA. At 8, AS YOU LIKE IT.

COURT.—This evening, at 7.30, DREADFULLY ALARMING. At 8.0, GOOD FOR NOTHING. At 9, BRIGHTON.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, THE TWO BONNYCASTLES. At 8.0, WHITTINGTON.

CRITERION.—LES PRES SAINT GERVAIS, &c.

AMPHITHEATRE, HOLBORN.—This evening, SHYLOCK.

SURREY.—ARRAH-NA-POGUE, &c.

PHILHARMONIC.—MARITANA, &c.

HENGLER'S CIRQUE.—LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD, &c.

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CRYSTAL PALACE.—This Day, CONCERT, &c. On Tuesday, MONEY. Every Tuesday and Thursday, till 16th March, STANDARD ENGLISH PLAYS. Open daily, AQUARIUM, PICTURE GALLERY, &c.

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EGYPTIAN HALL.—MASKELYNE AND COOKE, at 3.0 and 8.0.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL, Langham Place.—Mr. and Mrs. GERMAN REED at 8.0. Thursday and Saturday at 3 only.

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FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE

67 BARBICAN, E.C.

NOTANDA.

DURING the past week Parliament has been doing good work quietly, and it is worthy of remark that in both Houses have been introduced even thus early in the Session several important measures. For many years it has been subject of complaint that the work of legislation was carried on only in the House of Commons till Summer set in. Then Bills were sent up to the Lords, and had to be disposed of in a hurry, or the fruits of the Commons' labours would have been lost, for that year at all events. This cannot be urged against the conduct of public business this Session. On Tuesday, in the House of Lords, the Supreme Court of Judicature Act (1873) Amendment Bill, and the Land Titles and Transfer Bill were read a second time, as also was the Increase of Episcopate Bill introduced by Lord Lyttelton. The importance of at all events two of these measures it is impossible to overrate. On Thursday the second reading of the Church Patronage Bill was moved by the Bishop of Peterborough, and, after a somewhat lengthy debate, in which several other Right Rev. Prelates took part, was agreed to. In the House of Commons on Friday last, Mr. Sclater-Booth moved the second reading of the Adulteration of Food and Drugs Bill. This was agreed to, and the Committee fixed for the 4th proximo. On Monday the Secretary of State for War moved the second reading of the Regimental Exchanges Bill, urging, in the course of his speech, that he had taken up the question on the recommendatin of the Commission appointed by his predecessor, Lord Cardwell; that it would promote contentment in, and be of benefit to the army, and that it would involve no expense to the country. The motion was opposed by Mr. Trevelyan and others, but was carried by 282 to 185. On Wednesday afternoon a very useful Bill passed its second reading,—the Bank Holidays Act (1871) Extension Bill, the object being to extend that Act to officers of Customs and others whose connection with the shipping trade prevented their sharing its benefits. Mr. Ritchie had charge of the measure, which received the support of Mr. W. H. Smith, the financial Secretary of the Treasury, but was opposed by Mr. C. Wilson, member for Hull, and others. The second reading, however, was agreed to by 90 to 64. On Thursday the second reading of the Friendly Societies' Bill was agreed to, and Mr. Cross obtained leave to introduce a Bill to amend the law with respect to manufacturing, keeping, selling, carrying, and importing gunpowder, nitro-glycerine and other explosive substances. To complete this summary of the week's Parliamentary history, it remains to add that Mr. Marling has been elected by a majority of more than 200 over his opponent, Lord Bury, to fill the vacancy at Stroud, and has taken his seat, and that convict Mitchell is again a candidate for Co. Tipperary. There are also vacancies at St. Ives by the unseating of Mr. Praed, and at Norwich, one of whose members, Mr. Huddleston, Q.C. has been raised to the Bench.

On Monday afternoon, a Levee was held at St. James's Palace, by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen. The Dukes of Edinburgh and Cambridge, Prince Christian, the Duke of Teck and Prince Edward of Saxe Weimar were present. Both the Diplomatic and General circles were numerously attended, and presentations to His Royal Highness, to the number of some 150 were made, such presentations being, by the Queen's pleasure, deemed equivalent to presentations to Her Majesty.

In connection with the lock-out in South Wales, Mr. Macdonald, M.P. for Stafford, has addressed a conference of the Council of the Miners' National Association, held on Wednesday, in Manchester, in terms strongly condemnatory of the action of the mine-owners. Mr. Macdonald's utterances on the subject of everything relating to mining is entitled to respect. Condemnation of one party to a

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SUPPLEMENT
TO
THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SATURDAY, 27th FEBRUARY 1875.

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Incorporated under the Companies' Acts 1862 and 1867.

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ALTHOUGH THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE has now been in existence for a period of two months, we have not yet taken any active steps to place before the Masonic world the Company which lies in embryo behind it. We have hesitated to press this project upon the attention of its readers, simply because we felt that until we had given them some idea of the scope and style of the Journal it was our ambition to found they might fairly decline to interest themselves in the matter. THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE is now in the ninth number of its existence, and we think our brethren are in a position to estimate the paper at its real worth, as the organ and exponent of the opinions of the Fraternity. No special effort has been made to give its issues the air of a carefully selected sample of the journalistic work the staff has set itself to accomplish. They have dealt with the questions of the hour as they have arisen, and have written, as they intend to write in the future, with fairness, impartiality, and independence. The Opinions of the Press which we print below are culled from a large number of highly complimentary notices with which its contemporaries have honoured it. This testimony of its journalistic brethren was not asked, and it is all the more valuable on that account, since it expresses the unbiassed judgment of a number of writers who can have no possible interest in the venture upon which we are embarked. We feel that we may now leave THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE to speak for itself, and we turn to the practical question of "ways and means," with perfect confidence that we shall win the support of a large circle of the Masonic world. We may state that up to the present moment no Shares have been allotted, although we have been frequently urged to proceed to their distribution. We have felt, however, that the Paper should be the property of as large a number of the Fraternity as possible, and we were unwilling to take any steps to make the Company a fact until, as we have remarked above, the readers of the "CHRONICLE" could fairly estimate the possible future value of the undertaking. We are now prepared to allot the first batch of shares, and we venture strongly to urge members of the Order who have not yet sent in applications to do so at once. Our hands will then be strengthened by the assurance that the Journal is the exponent of as wide a circle of Masonic friends as possible, and we shall face the hard and difficult work before us with cheerful confidence as to the future. We need scarcely assure our brethren that, as the Company is founded upon the principle of limited liability, no one will be responsible for any sum beyond the amount of his Share or Shares.

The reproach of caring little or nothing for journalism—if it has ever had any foundation in fact—should surely be removed from an Order which contains within its ranks men eminent in every walk of literature. We are doing our best to promote that generous and noble enthusiasm which in these days is deemed essential to the success of every association. It may, indeed, be said that it is a work of supererogation to attempt to inspire men who need no inspiration. We hold that no association, whatever may be the motive power which urges it on, can work to any real advantage without some medium of intercommunication. The force, however, which alone can move the Press should not be lacking. We have indeed no reason to complain of the circulation of the "CHRONICLE," but we shall gladly see it extended; and we may, in conclusion, add, that Masters and Secretaries of Lodges will be doing us a great service if

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they will kindly press the Journal upon the notice of their brethren. Every member indeed, however circumscribed his influence, may do something to help us. We are toiling, *con amore*, in a cause we have much at heart. We have unfolded the standard of Masonry before the world, and the first stones of our projected structure are laid. Are we too sanguine in thinking that we shall be encouraged until success is achieved, and the building completed?

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

The Banffshire Reporter, 15th January 1875.

Every body, be it profession, trade, or association, must now have its special organ, for the purpose of ventilating its opinions, in order that it may be enabled to hold its proper place on the platform of social existence, and the wonder is that a body, or order, of such wide-spread ramifications as the "Brethren of the Mystic tie,"—a body which, although anathematised as a secret society, yet has the honour to have H.R.H. the Prince of Wales at its head, should not, long ere now, have had a special organ of its own. The want—if want it really was—has been now supplied. We have before us the first number of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE which, as its name implies, is to be the special organ and mouth-piece of the brotherhood. If Freemasonry be what this first number of its own special organ represents it to be—and we have no reason to doubt that it is—the only pity is that all men are not Freemasons, for undoubtedly there is much need for a more universal dissemination of the principles of "Brotherly Love," and a higher sense of "Truth" and the moral obligations which the various members of society owe to each other. In short, this new-born organ of Freemasonry says:—"We shall seek to make THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE as prosperous as possible, but we will not permit our pages to degenerate into a mere trade circular, nor will we, for any immediate advantages, sacrifice the high principles of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, which henceforth shall shine before the world as our guiding stars." If these be not words in course, all must bid this organ of Freemasonry welcome; and of its truth or falsehood, what follows may be taken as a fair criterion. It is under the head of "THE MASON: A GENTLEMAN.—Members of the Craft are, one and all, agreed as to the social, moral and religious advantages of Freemasonry. The Master Mason, whatever his creed or country, knows that his connection with the Institution has superadded to his other opportunities of becoming a good citizen, a rule of life which embraces all the blessings that lie scattered up and down the various beliefs into which the nations of the world are divided. He becomes assured that honour, virtue and benevolence are the qualities which should alone distinguish one class from another; and that within the sacred bond of brotherhood all good Masons are equal in the eyes of the Great Architect of the Universe. Unfortunately, the outside or popular world, who have not entered the penetralia of the Craft, are apt to apply to its members the ordinary tests current in social life. Hence it is of vital importance to the Institution itself that all its members should be persons of blameless lives, and it is equally important that they should possess that culture which distinguishes the gentle from the ungentlemanly. It seems to us quite possible that a brother may be a good, ordinary Mason, capable of fulfilling all the duties enjoined in the principles of brotherly love, relief and truth, and yet be wanting in that trained scholarship which, although it enhances the courtesies of life, is too often found along with a cold, cynical understanding. At the same time, we think it imperatively necessary that every Freemason should use his best endeavours to polish and refine his intellect. Indeed, we go on frankly and fearlessly stating our opinion that no man should be chosen to hold office whose culture will not enable him to do honour to the great and important duties of his station."

THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, which appears to be the property of a joint stock limited liability company, is of a handy size and form, and is neatly printed on very fine paper.

South London Chronicle, 16th January 1875.

SPECIAL SERIAL LITERATURE.—With the new year a new record of Masonic intelligence, entitled THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, sought public favour. From the second number, we find that the fresh aspirant is really devoted to news and articles relating to the Order, and is not a new general newspaper under the guise of a special title; as such, neatly printed as it is, and written in a fair style, the paper should succeed. In the western metropolitan area the chief Lodges exist, while in the southern the Masonic enterprise has already started the building of a handsome new hall, now nearly completed, to be mainly devoted to the requirements of the Order. Morgan, of Barbican, is the publisher.

The Hornet, 16th January 1875.

Masonry flourishes all over the world. The literature of the Craft is steadily increasing. We have this week the pleasure of welcoming into the world THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, a well-edited weekly record of Masonic news.

Deal, Walmer and Sandwich Mercury, 16th January 1875.

THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE is a new weekly journal of high-class literature, containing full particulars of the Fraternity, and a good summary of general news, politics, &c. Published by the Freemason's Chronicle Publishing Company, price 3d.

The Brighouse News, 16th January 1875.

THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, a weekly record of Masonic intelligence, price 3d. The Freemasons in this neighbourhood will be glad to learn that a weekly journal, the size of the *Saturday Review*, has been started in the interests of Freemasonry. The first number of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE appeared on 2nd January 1875. Besides a well written review of the leading political and other events of the day many articles on the varied aspects of Freemasonry appear in its columns. An interesting correspondence is maintained on subjects of interest to Freemasons. A very useful feature of the journal is the weekly diary of the meetings of the various Lodges throughout the country. To render this as complete as possible, the co-operation of the various secretaries throughout the country is solicited. Columns are also devoted to the notices of meetings. This journal is published by Mr. W. W. Morgan, at 67 Barbican, London, E.C.

The Staffordshire Times, 15th January 1875.

THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.—Morgan, 67 Barbican, E.C.—This is a weekly periodical of 16 pages, published at threepence, and devoted to the record of Masonic intelligence. At present only two numbers of it have appeared. Its general appearance, however, is prepossessing; its matter is well written and well selected, and in the second number there is a particularly good article on "After-Dinner Speeches." It is to be hoped that Freemasons will support their organ, which certainly represents them efficiently.

The Dewsbury Chronicle, 16th January 1875.

This will be found a very useful journal to the members of the Craft: it is well edited, and gives a mass of carefully prepared information to Freemasons. The price is 3d weekly.

The Scottish Freemasons' Magazine, 16th January 1875.

We have received the two first issues of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, a weekly journal (published in London) devoted to Freemasonry, also giving a short *résumé* of general topics interesting to its readers. This journal will supply a want much felt in England; Masonic literature having been very feebly represented there during the last few years. We have no doubt our contemporary will attain a wide circulation, and we give it our best wishes.

Market Harborough Advertiser, 19th January 1875.

THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, a high class Masonic Journal, published with the design of giving a complete *résumé* of intelligence relating to the Craft. It contains notices of meetings throughout the kingdom, a diary for the week, together with vigorous articles on the doings of the day, the Drama, &c., and will no doubt prove very useful to all Freemasons. Success cannot fail to attend it if the excellence of its second number, of which we speak, be maintained.

Kingsbridge Gazette, 19th January 1875.

The establishment of a new Masonic newspaper may be by some considered unnecessary, but the numbers of the new periodical before us seem to contain in themselves a justification for their publication. The articles are good—one on "After-Dinner Speeches" being specially readable—the reports of Lodges are full, and are more interesting than such reports usually are; our Masonic friends can hardly do better, to keep themselves posted in current Masonic history, than to subscribe to this new journal.

Barnet Press, Finchley News and Edgware Chronicle, 23rd January 1875.

The second number of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE lies before us, and it wears the appearance of a class-journal destined to spend a long and useful life among the Craft. The editor speaks in glowing terms of the enthusiastic reception which greeted the first number, so we suppose there is not much occasion to press its acceptance on Masons generally. There may, however, be some in our own neighbourhood who have not yet seen it, and we therefore suggest its purchase at once (we presume it is in print) that in case they become regular readers of THE CHRONICLE, their subscription may date from its birth. The first number has always a special interest, which increases in proportion to the age and influence to which a journal attains; and our readers may thank us in after years for persuading them to expend the modest sum of threepence to obtain No. 1 of Vol. I. of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE. We don't know that the promoters aspire to much popularity outside the borders of their Craft, but the specimen copy before us contains two or three articles of general interest. Some remarks on "After-Dinner Speeches" are worth reading by all who seek to shine in this much-neglected department of oratory; and the leader upon "The political situation in Europe" may please readers who prefer gaining information upon such subjects from articles divested of political bias. The remainder of the 16 pages, fcp. folio, are chiefly filled with news, correspondence, and essays interesting only to Freemasons, but their CHRONICLE will soon boast a large circulation if but a tithe of the Craft in England support it. We wish it abundant prosperity.

Hastings and St. Leonard's News, 22nd January 1875.

THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE is a new weekly paper of great promise, giving not only its "weekly record of Masonic Intelligence" (which it does fully and methodically), but a fair amount of general news, and leading articles which appear to be sensibly written. A good example is that on "After-Dinner Speeches." Although not Freemasons ourselves, we have been greatly pleased with the paper, and warmly recommend it.

Leigh Chronicle, 23rd January 1875.

With the new year the first number of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE made its appearance. The Masons of the United Kingdom are sufficiently numerous to support more than one journal representing the interests of the Craft, and the new Masonic newspaper will undoubtedly be a success if conducted with spirit, and in accordance with the principles of the mystic brotherhood.

The Beverley Weekly Recorder, 23rd January 1875.

A new Masonic journal, under the title of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, has been commenced in London. It is a threepenny weekly paper, and contains a good selection of news, special attention being of course devoted to matters affecting the Craft.

The Surrey Comet, 23rd January 1875.

A new Masonic weekly newspaper—THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE—commenced its first number with the beginning of the new year. Besides Masonic news and articles on Masonic questions, the new venture—which is the property of a company of Freemasons—notices events and subjects of more general interest, and appears likely to fill a want long felt among the brotherhood.

Leighton Buzzard Observer, 26th January 1875.

The Freemasons have established a weekly journal under the title of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, published at threepence. The first number has met with a very encouraging reception and a wide circulation. From an article appearing in the second number we glean that arrangements are being made by the proprietors for the supply of regular memoranda of all Lodge meetings of importance, and to give a complete weekly *résumé* of Masonic intelligence. With respect to the literary department, it is intended to give a series of articles on Masonic questions of high interest, from the pens of competent brothers who are well trained in literary work, and to establish correspondentships in India, America, and the Colonies, so that readers may be posted up in the proceedings of the Craft throughout the wide range of the Masonic world. An effort is to be made to keep the readers of THE CHRONICLE informed of the proceedings of their military brethren, and to make the reports of this branch of the Craft co-extensive with the great empire over which the Queen holds away. Articles on questions of moment connected with the outer world will not be wanting, to vary the interest, and as these will be written from a Masonic standpoint, they will, doubtless, be heartily welcome. The vast mass of Masonic literature which has emanated from the pens of gifted brothers during the last generation will not be overlook d, and, in addition to fair and impartial notices of current publications, will be prepared, from time to time, careful papers upon the old standard works connected with the Order, in which lie embalmed the ripe experience of men who were bright stars in the brilliant galaxy of the distinguished members of the Craft. It is promised that neither time, labour nor expense shall be spared to command universal support.

Greenock Telegraph and Clyde Shipping Gazette, 26th January 1875.

The number of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE for last Saturday is the fourth that has been issued of this journal, and is a good specimen of what such a work should be, containing a large variety of matter. Besides items of intelligence from numerous Lodges, there are readable summaries of general news, literary and dramatic criticisms, and articles on Masonic subjects, one of which is "Sincerity," a trait in the Masonic character which is insisted on. There is also the address, by Mr. C. I. Paton, to the Orange Brotherhood of Scotland. We should say THE CHRONICLE will be found very acceptable to the Fraternity, wherever residing.

Ryde News, 30th January 1875.

We commend this new weekly journal to the notice of our Masonic friends. It is well got up, clearly printed, and contains a mass of interesting and eminently readable Masonic intelligence. The price is but threepence per week, and brethren of the ancient Craft would do well to become subscribers.

Trowbridge and North Wilts Advertiser, 30th January 1875.

A FEW WORDS ABOUT FREEMASONS.—This large and powerful body, whose movements have always been wrapped in profound mystery, and whose sayings and doings have necessarily been but feebly represented in newspapers to the vulgar gaze of a prying public, have now issued a newspaper of their own, THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, 16 pages, price 3d, neatly printed and apparently well edited, and containing carefully prepared information interesting to the brotherhood. From No. 4, which lies before us, we take the following mysterious remarks:—"We claim that every true Mason is essentially a sincere man.

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Though the scale of sincerity which prevails among the brotherhood may be graduated, the quality itself is of the very essence of Masonry. To take a man on the very threshold of his Masonic career;—he joins the Order from pure love and respect for its principles. He knows there a one mystic tie which, quite apart from all other ties, unites all the brethren in all parts of the world. With this knowledge, he voluntarily undertakes the obligations of Masonry. Many people imagine that Masonry is a kind of hobby, which men follow for mere amusement. They are not aware that every member, on entering the brotherhood, binds himself, by the most solemn obligations, to certain rules of life, that he accepts certain principles to guide him in his relations and intercourse with the other brethren. Some regard it as an ancient mystery, with much quaint ceremonial, but comparatively meaningless. Others fancy that admission to a Lodge is pretty much the same thing as admission to a club. It is perfectly true that Masons have certain signs and symbols for the purpose of mutual recognition. It is highly probable that a Mason is what Dr. Johnson called a clubbable man. But these notions fall very far short of the reality, ignoring, as they do, the true aims which have always influenced Masons from the remotest ages. We are neither surprised nor offended that the outer world should hold these views. Consid ring the state of darkness in which they live, they could hardly, indeed do otherwise. The business of a Mason is the fulfilment of certain sacred duties, and no one can conscientiously observe these duties who is not animated by the purest and most disinterested motives, or, in other words, who is not a perfectly sincere man." Outsiders, who may be curious to know more about Masons, will not, we know, be content with a little peep beneath the veil of Masonic mystery. They had better buy the paper and read for themselves.

The Craven Pioneer, 30th January 1875.

MASONIC SINCERITY.—The fourth number of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE has just been issued, and its contents justify us in saying that the Brotherhood may be congratulated upon having such an admirable weekly record of Masonic intelligence, and an organ so ably and respectably conducted as THE CHRONICLE appears to be. Among many interesting articles in the last number is one on "The Mason: A Sincere Man," the concluding portion of which is so good that we give it insertion. Here follows our article as it appeared in No. 3.

Dumfries-shire and Galloway Herald, 30th January 1875.

A new journal has recently been commenced, the name of it being THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, a weekly record of Masonic intelligence. The number for last week, which we received, has 16 pages, and appears well got up. There are articles of interest to the Fraternity, besides general news; and also reports of meetings of Lodges in different parts of England. The price of the journal is 3d, and the publisher is Bro. W. W. Morgan, at 67 Barbican, E.C.

Folkestone Express, 30th January 1875.

Another organ devoted to Masonic interests has just been successfully launched, and bids fair to hold its own. We have received a copy of the fourth issue of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, published on Saturday last. Besides the purely technical and Masonic information, it contains well written summaries of the week's news, and critiques on the "Quarterlies" and other publications. The older Masonic journals will have to look to their laurels.

Monmouthshire Chronicle, 23rd January 1875.

A copy of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE has been forwarded us. It is a new candidate for favour with the "Craft," and is likely to prove a success. It is a weekly, price 3d.

The Ross Gazette, 4th February 1875.

This is a new weekly record of Masonic intelligence, and, as the Craft is extensive and extended, it will doubtless meet with healthy support.

The Civilian, 6th February 1875.

THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE is a new literary venture, having for his object the advocacy of questions connected with the Order. It is well got up, and the articles are all of high merit. Masonry has hitherto been unfortunate in its press representatives, but in THE CHRONICLE the members of the Craft have a journal of which no one need be ashamed. We wish it success.

Waterford Mirror, 3rd February 1875.

A new publication, devoted to the interests of Freemasonry, has just been issued. It is very creditably got out, and is published at 67 Barbican, London. As many in the city will, no doubt, be anxious to know all about this new production, we will gladly give the

PROSPECTUS.

This Company has been formed for the establishment of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, and for the publication of newspapers, books, pamphlets, &c., connected with Freemasonry.

The inadequate representation of the Craft in the public press of this country has long been a subject of regret, and the wish has not unfrequently been expressed that a journal might be established, in the interests of the Order, which should be owned and conducted entirely by members. This wish it is the object of the present Company to carry into effect. THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE will be the property of Freemasons, and its devotion and loyalty to their cause will thus be effectively secured. It has been decided to raise the requisite capital in shares, of a small amount, in order that a large number of the Fraternity may have the opportunity of acquiring an interest in the undertaking. As it is not proposed to call up more than 50 per cent. of the capital, it will be seen that such an interest may be obtained at an immediate outlay of £1 per share.

If only a small proportion of the Freemasons in the United Kingdom subscribe to THE CHRONICLE, it will suffice to guarantee the Company from actual loss, while the more numerous the subscribers the greater will be the opportunities for promoting the interests of the Craft.

It is intended that THE CHRONICLE shall contain:—Leading Articles on subjects of interest; Special Reports of all Masonic Meetings; a Weekly Summary of News; Antiquarian Notes and Sketches relating to the Craft; Reviews of Books; Critical notices of current events of the day. Its columns will also be open for the discussion of topics interesting to the Brotherhood. On questions of religion and politics the new Journal will assume a position of strict neutrality. Intending subscribers should fill up the Form of Application and forward it, together with the deposit, to the London and County Bank, 113 Aldersgate Street, London, E.C.

In conclusion, the members of the Provisional Committee desire to express their grateful acknowledgment of the many promises of support they have already received from influential members of the Craft, in various parts of the country, and they earnestly appeal to all who approve of their project to labour with them to make it a brilliant and enduring success.

Prospectuses, with Forms of Application for Shares, can be obtained from the General Manager.

14th December 1874.

Le Monde Maçonnique, No. 9 for January 1875.

Les Maçons libéraux Anglais viennent de constituer un nouveau journal Maçonnique THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE," paraissant tous les huit jours.

Il en est à son troisième numéro; et le succès est déjà assuré par une société des capitalistes et par les nombreuses sympathies de tous les Maçons libéraux.

The Wigton Advertiser, 6th February 1875.

We have received the first number of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, a new Masonic Newspaper or periodical, published by Bro. W. Wray Morgan, and are glad to welcome the new venture into the ranks of the literature appertaining to the "Craft." The first number scarcely came up to our idea of what a purely Masonic newspaper ought to be, and reminded one too much of the "*De omnibus rebus et quibusdam aliis*;" Masonry being apparently a secondary point. As it has progressed however it has much improved, and this week's number is very satisfactory, and is now what one might expect from a paper of this kind. We cordially wish THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE every success.

Land and Water, 6th February 1875.

We have received the first five numbers of this new Masonic organ. Besides numerous articles on subjects of special interest to the Craft, each number contains a good summary of events, literary notices, an excellent dramatic criticism and other items of general intelligence. The paper is well got up, well printed, and bears evidence of being carefully edited.

The Kelso Courier, 5th February 1875.

THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.—The Freemasons have started a weekly newspaper in London, which goes by this title. It it astonishing, when other more recently-organised and not nearly so popular bodies can each boast of their representatives in the British press, that an influential Craft like the Freemasons should be so poorly supplied with mouthpieces. We have no doubt the new venture will prove successful, seeing that the interests of the Craft are its chief theme.

The Cashel Gazette, 30th January 1875.

THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE is a new weekly journal devoted to the interests of the Craft; it is neatly got out, well printed and promises well.

Stratford-upon-Avon Chronicle, 5th February 1875.

THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, a weekly record of Masonic intelligence, is the best journal of its class we have met with for a long time, and, as an exponent of the true principles of Freemasonry, and a means of intercommunication amongst the Craft, there is no doubt but it will be largely patronised.

Figaro, 6th February 1875.

In connection with the foregoing (notice of quarterly journal of the National Lifeboat Institution) we may notice, with approval, the interesting leading article, "An Endowment Fund for the Freemasons' Life-boat," published in No. 4 (Jan. 23) of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, which is an excellent threepenny weekly paper that should be read by every Mason. The Freemasons had already given a Lifeboat to the Institution; but as its annual cost is £70, it is now proposed that an Endowment Fund should be raised by Masons, and the brethren will doubtless send in subscriptions or donations to W. W. Morgan, at the office of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, 67 Barbican, E.C.

The Newbury Weekly News, 4th February 1875.

THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE," an ably conducted weekly journal devoted to the interests of Masonry, and an organ of which the Craft may be well congratulated. It is published by a company, and, from what we can glean the share list is not yet closed.

The Alloa Circular, 10th February 1875.

We have been favoured with a copy of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE from the publishing company. THE CHRONICLE is a new Masonic paper of 16 pp., published weekly in London, price threepence. It is well got up, well printed, and its articles are cleverly and clearly written. The publication, a copy of which lies before us, is sure, we think, not only to commend itself to the Masonic Fraternity, but to others of the community as well. We copy from its pages the following article bearing upon "The Mason: a Sincere Man." Here follows our article as appeared in No. 3.

The Oxford Messenger, 3rd February 1875.

We have received a copy of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, a weekly publication, which we heartily commend to the Craft. It has been a subject of regret for a considerable time that the Order had no journal of their own to boast of. The Freemasons have now a thorough good organ, their own property, and conducted entirely by members.

Impartial Reporter and Fermanagh Farmers' Journal, 11th February 1875.

We have received a copy of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, an English publication. It is issued in handy form, and is evidently edited and contributed to by brethren skilled in the Craft.

The Walsall Free Press, 13th February 1875.

THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE is a weekly record of Masonic intelligence, and will be found exceedingly interesting to the "brethren of the mystic tie;" but in addition to Masonic information, it contains articles of general information, which cannot fail to interest the general public.

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dispute, however, is not usually regarded as a conciliatory process. The mine-owners may hold together, and observe the policy they have adopted with all the greater firmness that Mr. Macdonald's sympathy with the miners is so unmistakable. Would not a proposal for a conference of miners and mine-owners, with a view to settle their differences, have been more to the purpose than a dead set against the latter? We cannot but regret the occurrence of these differences between masters and men, especially as they entail so much suffering. We should like to see them not only prevented, but rendered impossible, but the interference of third parties, except for the purpose of bringing about a reconciliation is more likely to do harm than good.

The report on the loss of the ill-fated Cospatrick has appeared. After a careful consideration of the evidence, the Court has come to the unanimous conclusion that the fire originated in the fore-hold, which was separated from the fore-peak only by a wooden bulkhead, and not as suggested, in the boatswain's locker. It is held that some of the crew or emigrants made their way into this fore-hold, which they could easily do, as the upper boards of the bulkhead could be knocked down or removed without difficulty, for the purpose of plundering the cargo, and that in doing so they made use of naked lights or matches, and so set fire to something inflammable. As to the question whether the Cospatrick had her proper complement of boats, the Court decides this in the affirmative. The report concludes with sundry practical suggestions for the purpose of securing the hold against the intrusion of passengers or crew, and for the better stowage of the boats.

By the death of the well-known geologist, Sir Charles Lyell, Science has lost one of her most distinguished votaries. Sir Charles had reached a ripe age, having been born in 1797, and having consequently entered his 78th year. He was educated at Exeter College, Oxon, whence he graduated in 1821, and was formally called to the bar. Very early in life he devoted himself to geological research, his principal works being his "Principles of Geology" (1833), which has passed through ten editions, and his "Elements of Geology" (1838), now in its seventh edition. He was elected president of the Geological Society in 1836-37, and again in 1850-51, and in 1864 he was chosen president of the British Association. He received the honour of knighthood for his eminent services in 1848, and a baronetcy in 1864, having had conferred upon him in the interim the honorary degree of D.C.L. of Oxford.

Last week we chronicled the successful examination which the Prince Imperial passed before quitting the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich. On Monday evening his Imperial Highness was entertained at a banquet by the Royal Artillery in their banqueting Hall at Woolwich. There were present to greet the Prince about 150 guests, including Major-General D'Aguilar, Commandant of the Garrison, who presided, Brigadier-General Adye, Director of Artillery and Stores, and Sir J. L. Simmons, Governor of the Royal Military Academy. Two toasts only were proposed, those of "The Queen" and "The Prince Imperial." Both were responded to with the usual honours, and the latter was briefly but very appropriately acknowledged, in English, by His Imperial Highness.

Our tale of Foreign News is somewhat brief. In France the Assembly is still working at the Senate Bill, with which considerable progress has been made. Several clauses have been passed, and of these clause 2 implies the recognition by the Assembly of the Republic. This was passed by a considerable majority, whereas, on the second reading it escaped defeat by one vote only. The health of the Emperor of Germany appears to have greatly improved. He has received Prince von Bismarck, who made a long report to His Majesty on public affairs. From Spain there is little further to record. The conscription for 70,000 men has commenced in the provinces. As to the situation in the North, matters seem to remain pretty well as they were. The Carlists confront the Alphonsists and the Alphonsists confront the Carlists. They remind us of Sheridan's description of Sir R. Strachan and the Earl of Chatham:—

> The Earl of Chatham, with his sword drawn,
> Stood waiting for Sir Richard Strachan;
> Sir Richard, longing to be at 'em,
> Stood waiting for the Earl of Chatham.

There is, of course, this difference in the present case; the Carlists and the Alphonsists are enemies, whilst Sir R. Strachan and Lord Chatham were in joint command of the English expeditionary forces. The chief item of interest from Italy is the scheme of Garibaldi for the sanitary improvement of Rome. The Hermit of Caprera has at length found a subject worth entering upon, and is clearly throwing himself heart and soul into the good work. Rome has long enjoyed a somewhat evil reputation for the unhealthiness of its city and environs. To cure this evil will be a triumph worthy the great reputation of the hero of Sicilian and Neapolitan freedom. One highly gratifying piece of intelligence remains. On the East Coast of Africa, Her Majesty's ships of war have been more than usually successful in their attempts to put down slavery. Fort Mozambique has been first bombarded, and then taken possession of and handed over to the Sultan of Zanzibar; and two slavers have been captured, of which one contained 192, the other 110 slaves. An attack by the Portuguese on a slave baracoon, containing 1,000 slaves, has been repulsed with loss, but the accounts state that H.M.'s Thetis had proceeded to the attack. No doubt we shall soon have to report that the owner of the baracoon is a "gone coon."

We understand that P.M. Bro. F. Kent C.C. intends to apply to Grand Lodge for a warrant authorising the formation of a "Municipal Lodge," in connection with the Livery Companies and the Corporation of London. In this application he will be supported by Bros. Alderman Knight, Sir F. W. Truscott, Sir Benjamin S. Phillips, Mr. Sheriff Shaw, J. E. Saunders, Esq., and W. S. Gover, Esq., who are all leading members of the Corporation. We may add that the Lord Mayor, the Rt. Hon. David Henry Stone, is a member of the Grand Master's Lodge No. 1, and that Mr. Ex-Sheriff Johnson, Ex-Sheriff Sir F. Perkins, and Mr. J. R. S. Vine (private secretary to the Lord Mayor) are also members of the Order.

Among the business to be transacted at the next Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, on Wednesday, the 3rd prox., may be mentioned the election of a M. W. Grand Master, and of a Grand Treasurer. The M. W. Grand Master will move an address of condolence to the M. W. Prov. Grand Master the Earl of Carnarvon on the serious affliction that has befallen him by the death of the Countess of Carnarvon. A resolution will also be moved in reference to the formation of the Grand Lodge of Quebec. Bro. R. P. Harding, Auditor of Grand Lodge Accounts, will present his report on the receipts and expenditure for the year 1874.

It appears that, since the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, warrants have been granted by the M. W. Grand Master to 19 new Lodges.

According to *Debrett*, the Earl of Limerick, who succeeds Earl Percy, M.P., as Grand Master of the Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, was born in 1840, and succeeded to the title in 1866. He served for a short time in the Rifle Brigade, from 1858 to 1862, in which latter year he retired. He married, in 1862, Caroline Maria, daughter of the late Rev. Henry Gray, Vicar of Almondsbury, and granddaughter of the last Bishop of Bristol. There is issue of the marriage one son, W. H. Edmund de Vere Sheaffe, Viscount Glentworth, born in 1863. His lordship is Lieut.-Colonel Royal Limerick County Militia, a D.L. for County Limerick, and a magistrate for Counties Limerick, Clare and Cork.

Our lady friends will be glad to learn that another paper, *Myra's Journal of Fashion*, has been started in their interest. It is well printed and illustrated, and full of matter interesting to the feminine mind.

It always strikes us as extremely painful, when we see a hearse and mourning-coaches halting, on their return home, at one or more public-houses for refreshment. Two cases of drunkenness were brought under the notice of the magistrate at Worship Street on Thursday. In one it was the driver of a funeral carriage who had dismounted from his seat, and was found incapable of getting up again. In the other, a woman had attended her daughter's funeral, and

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became tipsy on the return journey. Fines of ten shillings and five shillings were inflicted, with the alternative of imprisonment, in the man's case for seven, and in the woman's for five days. The man should undoubtedly have known how to conduct himself decently, for attending funerals was his business; but may we charitably suggest that the poor woman was perhaps so empty of food that the drop of gin she drank to keep out the cold this inhospitable weather overpowered her senses?

His Grace the Duke of Westminster has shown a very substantial interest in the movement, originated by the *Globe*, for the establishment of Cabmen's Shelters, by remitting a cheque for £100 to the Committee. Already the sum of £675 has been subscribed, but before these shelters can be generally established throughout the metropolis, a considerable increase to the funds will be necessary. The success of the first one, which was opened on the 6th inst., in Acacia Road, St. John's Wood, seems already assured. Another, which is being erected in Langham Place, at the sole expense of Colonel Fitzwygram, may be opened even before this meets the eye of our readers. Yet others are ordered in other districts. Cabmen lead a hard life, exposed as they are, at all times, to the inclemency of the weather. The Committee have our best wishes for the continued success of so laudable a movement.

The Great Canadian oil case has come to an end, after a trial extending over 17 days, but to the satisfaction of neither party to the suit. The jury, after several hours' consultation, found themselves unable to agree to a verdict, being, it is said, equally divided on one of the points to which the Lord Chief Justice had specially directed their attention. His lordship suggested further consultation, but it soon appearing that the differences were absolutely irreconcilable, the jury were at length discharged. Thus, the only people who got any satisfaction out of this trial are the lawyers.

The unfortunate New Forest Shakers appear to be in a truly pitiable plight. Their occupancy of Mr. Auberon Herbert's barn has, some time since, come to an end, and now they are obliged to seek such shelter from the inclemency of the weather as a tent will afford. Let us try to imagine what it must be for men, and still worse for women and children, to be thus situated in the month of February, and especially now when frost and thaw succeed each other almost on alternate days. A few of the women have obtained refuge at night in the houses of one or two married Shakers (outsiders), but the majority are limited to the accommodation of the tent, taking turn and turn about at sleeping. Still the company seem healthy, and bear their privations uncomplainingly.

A NEW MASONIC SONG.

APROPOS of a recent article of ours on the subject of "Masonic Minstrelsy," the following song has been sent us for publication. We are not ourselves poetically given, and can offer, therefore, no opinion whatever on its merits. Our correspondent suggests that it is worthy a place in the "Masonic Vocal Manual," a point which, having due regard to our aforesaid poetic deficiencies, we must resolutely refuse to decide. A few notes and comments, for the purpose of elucidating the author's meaning, have been added by a friend of his. With this short preface, we leave our readers to judge for themselves of the song in question, which is by I.O.P.N.R., and is entitled

MY BROTHER!

Who first inspired[1] me when I came to town?[2]
Who entertained me at the Harp and Crown,[3]
Making me welcome as an only son?
My Brother!

Who pressed me, when I seemed a little queer,
To drink a pint of old-and-bitter beer[4]—
Bright as the brightest sherry, and as clear?
My Brother!

Who ever foremost, or to steal a glance
At lovely damsel, or the merry dance
Gaily to join in, if he had a chance?
My Brother!

Who, jovial, sang the best of comic songs?[5]
Who fought in earnest for his Order's wrongs,
Scaring the De'il with ancient pair of tongs?[6]
My Brother!

A pleasant man—a venerable file,[7]
In gaiters, spectacles, and glossy tile;[8]
For whom he meets a kindly word or smile—
My Brother!

Bring, landlord, then, a loving-cup—and mind
The wine is fragrant with the spice of Ind,
That I may drink—"Thou best of human kind,
"My Brother!

"Long life to thee and thine, and happiness!
"May'st thou nor sorrow know, nor yet distress!
"*Waes Hael!*[9] to thee, in loving kindliness!
"My Brother!"

NOTES, &c.

[1] The nature of the inspiration is not specified. The reader, however, must bear in mind the oft-quoted passage from Horace—

"Pictoribus atque poetis
Quidlibet audendi semper fuit aequa potestas."

Doubtless, the poet means to ask—Who filled me with admiration for the sublime truths of Masonry? The juxta-position of "son" and "brother," in lines 3 and 4, may suggest a little obscurity as to the relationship; but, in Masonry, "brotherly" covers a multitude of "loves."

[2] Town, *i.e.* London, which is, so to speak, the head-quarters of Masonry.

[3] Here, again, the writer has evidently claimed to exercise a certain poetic licence. The "Harp and Crown" must be taken to mean any house of entertainment in London at which a Lodge of Masons assembles.

[4] We trace a connection between this and the previous stanza. No doubt the two brethren met the day following the entertainment. The guest may, perhaps, have shown symptoms of being, what is known in the vulgar tongue as, "seedy," or "a little queer," owing to the gaseous nature of the lemonade, the richness of the viands, or the brandy sauce. His quondam host, therefore, on the modern principle, "Take a hair of the dog that bit you," recommends to his friend a pint of "old-and-bitter." We attach no special meaning to the liquor selected, which some people have irreverently nicknamed "Mother-in-law."

[5] The poet is somewhat too severe on Masonic Minstrelsy. Masonic songs are, as a rule, either "comico-tragic" or "serio-sentimental." The former exhibit a slightly Aristophanic vein of humour, tempered with the sublime grandeur of heroicism; or, to be more precise, Joe Milleresque, heightened by a Satan-Montgomery-like force of expression. The latter display, in all their native innocence, the severe simplicity of Dr. Watts's Hymns. We have never heard a genuine Masonic comic song which did not excite in us the warmest sympathy with Apollo and the Muses.

[6] The legend hath it that St. Dunstan tweaked the nose of the "Old Gentleman" with a pair of tongs, till the latter ran howling away. St. Dunstan may or may not have been a Mason, but he certainly was a brother of a Monastic order, and did good service to his Craft. Hence the illustration, the propriety of which is beyond all praise.

[7] In this and the following lines occur, respectively, the words "file"—meaning "a man"—and "tile"—meaning "a hat." Ordinarily these terms are held to be vulgar. Not so in the present case, however, as "file" and "tile" are well-known implements in Masonry.

[8] There is, perhaps, a special beauty in the word "tile." A structure is complete, for purposes of shelter, when the roof is on. Roofs are often made of "tiles." Hence a man with a "tile" on—glossy or otherwise—may be held to have completed the *headifice* of his costume. Again, the Tyler is an important Masonic officer. Hence the origin of the title. "A tile"—"a hat;" "a Tiler"—often also written "Tyler"—a man who wears a hat. In describing "My Brother's" costume, the poet has aimed at giving him a Pickwickian appearance—at least as to the "gaiters" and "spectacles." There was a good deal of the Mason about Mr. Pickwick. Brotherly love, for instance, was a leading feature in his character; but we have not seen it recorded anywhere, in any authentic history, that Mr. Pickwick was really and truly a Freemason.

[9] *Waes Hael!* The words of the toast or salutation in use amongst

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our Anglo-Saxon forefathers, whenever they drank to each other's health. If it be true that Britons are descended from the Ten Tribes, the introduction of these words must be held to have a very remarkable significance. Many believe that Masonry was preserved and handed down to us from the days of Adam through the Ten Tribes. The fact of their having been lost or mislaid for a number of centuries in no way affects the credibility of the legend. Moreover, the circumstantial evidence is said to be very strong in favour of their being the connecting link between Adam and the present generation of Masons. There is clearly an hiatus between the two, and the Ten Tribes will probably supply it.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY NEWS.

FRIDAY.

Business has been somewhat slack this week, partly in consequence of the attention of dealers being absorbed by the usual fortnightly settlement. There is still some strength, however, in prices, notably in British Railway stocks, which command the major portion of the investments made by the moneyed public. That there is a degree of solidity about this kind of security, to which no other kind of industrial enterprise can lay claim, there can be no question, and that it evidently meets the views of the cautious English capitalist is equally beyond dispute. Railway profits do not after all depend so much on the "bubble reputation," which many people are led to believe, and which may at any moment burst. It will, we believe, be admitted by all, that railways are now a permanent necessity throughout the length and breadth of the land; it is also well known that they possess a virtual monopoly, not only on account of the difficulties which Parliament has placed in the way of competitors, but also owing to the fact that of late years the whole country has been so parcelled out among a few great companies as to prevent any possibility of a rival making a good footing in hostile territory. Virtually 'then' the increased future profit derivable from the progress of this country will belong entirely to the existing undertakings, on the condition merely that they make adequate provision for their increasing business. What may be expected from the future can be best estimated, says the *Financier*, from the fact that the gross amount of railway traffic has nearly trebled within twenty years, and is still, though subject to variations, increasing at a rapid rate. Circumstances may delay for a time the actual realisation by the proprietors of the benefits arising from this progress, but it should never be forgotten that while the causes of this delay are transitory, the causes of progress are permanent. These considerations apply to railways at all times, but in addition to them there are others peculiar to the present moment, and which, though balanced to some extent by certain drawbacks, yet on the whole afford sufficient ground for believing that the current year will compare favourably with the past.

There has been no alteration in the Bank rate this week, and the return published last night shows an increase in the gold receipts of £201,696, while the proportion of reserve to liabilities is 2 per cent. higher.

The English Funds show no alteration, and a moderate business is reported, both for money and the account. The usual notice has been issued, that dividend warrants can be forwarded by post on the proper form being forwarded to the Bank of England.

The Foreign Market has been very quiet, but some descriptions are not unfavourably noticed. There are probably few instances of weaker prices, although these are scarcely of sufficient importance to affect the general condition of the market. Much to the surprise of many people in this country, the Senate Bill has passed the French Assembly by a good majority, which acknowledges the Republic as the only form of Government to be tolerated during the term originally proposed. Whether this measure will put an end to the political strife of "parties," is not easily answered; but this much may be said, that it is a step which ought to be fraught with many blessings to the nation at large, if accepted in the right spirit.

Railways we have already commented on at length, and there is little more to be added, except that the Great Western dividend has disappointed many people, although we ourselves consider that there is a large margin for increased receipts yet to be realised by this company. We have faint hopes of seeing the abolition of the passenger duty forming any part of the reductions proposed in the Budget this year, so that the different companies must look to their own unaided efforts to secure sufficient revenue to satisfy their shareholders.

Canadian and American securities are without any appreciable change, although in Hudson's Bay shares, and in Telegraphs Anglo-American are fractionally stronger.

At the meeting of the Langham Hotel Company on Wednesday, the report of the directors was submitted, and unanimously adopted. The chairman, Henry J. Rouse, Esq., in congratulating the shareholders upon the satisfactory statement of accounts that had been presented, drew attention to the fact that the receipts for the half-year ending the 31st December last had exceeded those of any previous corresponding season, the return being £50,995. The question of selling railway tickets in the hotel for the most important towns in the kingdom had been under careful consideration, and it was thought that an arrangement of this kind might be judiciously carried out with great advantage to the visitors who came to the hotel. The sum for division amounted to £15,202, which included a balance brought forward from the last account, and a dividend of 18¼ per cent., free of income tax, would therefore be recommended. From the success that had been achieved, it was fully expected that the Directors would have been enabled to declare a dividend of 20 per cent., but, on further consideration, it was thought advisable to defer doing so on the present occasion. One feature of the business was of sufficient importance to be commented upon, viz.: that visitors were now in the habit of bringing with them children and servants, which largely augmented the returns. While these facts spoke for themselves, the Directors entertained a firm conviction that while doing their utmost to maintain, and, if possible, increase the reputation of the hotel, there was yet a margin which would, it was hoped, permit of a further reduction in the item of expenses.

In the year ended the 31st of March last, the number of detections of illicit distillation in England was 12, in Scotland 6, and in Ireland 796. In the preceding year there were as many as 1,035 in Ireland.

Garibaldi's scheme for the opening of a new seaport, to connect the Tiber with the sea, by means of a navigable canal, has been reported upon by competent surveyors and found practicable. The Italian Government undertook the expense of survey.

The number of post cards sold in the twelve months ending March 1874 was 76,986,246, against 69,233,280 in the year 1873.

Some idea of the value of land in the City may be gathered from the fact that a site of some thousand superficial feet, known as 19 and 19A Old Change, was this week let by auction at a rental of £330 per annum.

The number of persons who left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe during the year 1874 was as follows:—From England, 184,291; from Scotland, 19,775; and from Ireland, 36,948; making a grand total of 241,014. In 1873 this was 310,612, showing a decrease in emigration for the year 1874 of 69,598. Of the grand total for 1874, nationality is thus distinguished: English, 116,490; Scotch, 20,286; Irish, 60,496; Foreigners, 38,468; and unknown, 5,277; the numbers for 1873 being respectively—123,343, 21,310, 83,692, 72,193, and 10,069. Of the total number of passengers in 1874, 39,251 were cabin, and 203,708 steerage.

At the annual meeting of the Liverpool, London and Globe Assurance Company, the shareholders were presented with a dividend of 8s per share, and, at the same time, it was intimated that a considerable sum had been added to the general reserve fund. In other respects the business had been most satisfactory, and the condition of the Company's affairs was represented as being eminently sound and worthy of trust.

An action, damages being laid at £100,000, is to be brought at the coming Manchester Assizes by Messrs. Ellis, Levers and Co., of that city, against Mr. S. Isaac, M.P. for Nottingham, for breach of contract. The hon. member, who is a colliery owner, is alleged to have repudiated a large order which had been accepted.

The following statement shows the receipts for traffic on the undermentioned railways for the past week, as compared with the corresponding week in 1874:—

Railway.	Miles open. 1875	Receipts. 1875 £	Receipts. 1874 £
Caledonian	737		
Glasgow and South Western	315	15,669	15,433
Great Eastern	763	41,352	40,244
Great Northern	517	50,231	49,340
Great Western	1,525	91,731	96,140
Lancashire and Yorkshire	430	61,313	59,041
London and Brighton	376	22,664	21,428
London, Chatham and Dover	158	13,892	12,870
London and North Western	1,582	155,567	152,285
London, Tilbury and Southend	45	1,358	1,216
Manchester and Sheffield	259	29,705	27,615
Midland	944	108,125	100,140
Metropolitan	8	8,722	8,235
" " District	8	5,007	4,268
" " St. John's Wood	1¼	435	423
North British	839	39,061	35,496
North Eastern	1,879	117,292	112,993
North London	12	6,468	6,675
North Staffordshire Railway	190	9,784	10,001
" " Canal	118	1,586	1,820
South Eastern	350	25,945	25,177

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DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be greatly obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the kingdom would favour us with a copy of their summonses each time of issue.

SATURDAY, 27th FEBRUARY.

1463—Wharncliffe, Rose and Crown Hotel, Penistone, Yorks.

MONDAY, 1st MARCH.

12—Fortitude and Old Cumberland, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
25—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall.
72—Royal Jubilee, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
144—St. Luke's, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, Basinghall-street.
188—Joppa, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
256—Unions, Freemasons' Hall.
1319—Asaph, Freemasons' Hall.
1056—Victoria, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.

R. A. 91—Regularity, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street.

154—Unanimity, Masonic Hall, Wakefield, Yorks.
1211—Goderich, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
1239—Wentworth, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
1302—De Warren, Masonic Hall, Halifax, Yorks.

R. A. 890—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Morley.

TUESDAY, 2nd MARCH.

Colonial Board at 3, Freemasons' Hall.
7—Royal York, Freemasons' Hall.
18—Old Dundee, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
101—Temple, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
173—Old Concord, Freemasons' Hall.
217—Stability, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
766—St. James', Bridge House Hotel, Southwark.
1257—Grosvenor, Caledonian Hotel, Adelphi.
1259—Duke of Edinburgh, Cape of Good Hope Tavern, Commercial-road.
1261—Golden Rule, Cafe Royal, Regent-street.
1298—Royal Standard, Marquess Tavern, Canonbury.
1361—Kennington, Surrey Tavern, Kennington-oval.
1383—Friends in Council, 33 Golden-square.
1397—Anerley, Thicket Hotel, Anerley.
1472—Hemley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich.

R. A. 169—Temperance, White Swan Tavern, Deptford.

70—St. John, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
124—Marquis of Granby, Freemasons' Hall, Durham.
265—Royal Yorkshire, Masonic Hall, Keighley, Yorks.

R. A. 296—Loyalty, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
R. A. 600—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Bradford, Yorks.

WEDNESDAY, 3rd MARCH.

Quarterly Communication, at 6 for 7.
511—Zetland, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
1491—Athenæum, The Athenæum, Camden-road, Holloway, N.

94—Phœnix, Freemasons' Hall, Sunderland.
838—Franklin, Peacock Hotel, Boston.
1274—Earl of Durham, Freemasons' Hall, Chester-le-street.

R. A. 304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Leeds.

THURSDAY, 4th MARCH.

10—Westminster and Keystone, Freemasons' Hall.
27—Egyptian, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
45—Strong Man, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, Basinghall-street.
192—Lion and Lamb, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
257—Ionic, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
231—St. Andrews, Freemasons' Hall.
538—La Tolerance, Freemasons' Hall.
554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
822—Victoria Rifles, Freemasons' Hall.
1351—St. Clement's Danes, King's Head Hotel, St. Clement's Danes, Strand.
1360—Royal Arthur, Duke of Edinburgh Hotel, New Wimbledon.

R. A. 2—St. James', Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 174—Sincerity, Cheshire Cheese Tavern, Crutched-friars.

289—Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
549—Tees, Masons'-court, Stockton-on-Tees.
551—St. Helen's, Masonic Hall, Hartlepool.
974—Pentalpha, Freemasons' Hall, Bradford.
1231—Savile, Royal Hotel, Elland, Yorks.
1304—Olive Union, Masonic Hall, Banks-street, Newcastle.
1379—Marquis of Ripon, Masonic Hall, Darlington.
1513—Friendly, King's Head, Barnsley, Yorks.

R. A. 275—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield.
R. A. 1214—Scarboro', Station Hotel, Upper Soothill, near Batley, Yorks.

FRIDAY, 5th MARCH.

706—Florence Nightingale, Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich.
861—Hornsey, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
1275—Star, Ship Hotel, Greenwich.

R. A. 3—Fidelity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate.
R. A. 8—British, Freemasons' Hall.

242—St. George's, Town Hall, Doncaster.
306—Alfred, 23 Albion-street, Leeds.
521—Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Huddersfield.
847—De Grey and Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon, Yorks.
1230—Barnard, Barnard Castle.

SATURDAY, 6th MARCH.

General Committee Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, at 4.
142—St. Thomas's, Willis's Rooms, King-street, St. James's.

R. A. 975—Rose of Denmark, Star and Garter, Kew.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—429—St. Kentigern, Royal Hotel, Penicuik.

TUESDAY—5—Canongate and Leith (L. and C.), 86 Constitution-street.

THURSDAY—97—St. James, St. James Hall, Writer's-court.

FRIDAY—291—Celtic of Edinburgh and Leith, Ship Hotel, East Register-street.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Eastern Star Lodge, No. 95.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held, on the 16th inst., at the Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street. Bro. H. Bateman W.M., E. H. Horne S.W., E. Roberts J.W., P. Edinger Secretary, A. Silberberg S.D., Ayres I.G., Speight Tyler. P.M.'s G. S. Ayres, Marriott, R. F. Hill, J. Lucas, F. Goode, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. Withers and Roberts were raised to the third degree, and Mr. Ruff was initiated. Bro. G. J. Broomhead 736, Mauritius, was elected a joining member. Bro. H. Bateman was installed into the chair for the second time, by Bro. Hill P.M., in a praiseworthy manner. The Lodge being closed, the brethren sat down to the banquet, which was provided by Bros. C. and A. Painter. The usual toasts were given. The visitors were Bros. H. Phythian P.M. 1293, W. Munday 1228, W. A. Thorp P.M. 49, W. Wainwright P.M. 933, A. Layton P.M. 181, J. Healey P.M. 59, Withers 211, E. Layton 181, C. E. Eglese late 1261, and Dr. Conner late 95.

Lodge of Faith, No. 141.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, 23rd inst., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Bro. J. Kennett W.M. in the chair, Bros. Waygood S.W., M. Davis J.W., Carter P.M. Treasurer, W. Stuart P.M. Secretary, Mallett S.D., Scott J.D, Dairey I.G., D. Davis D.C. and P.M's. Themans I.G., Peever, Hopwood, Pope, C. C. Taylor, Cobham, Green. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. Crow, Dyke, Oliver, Leavers and Bird were raised to the sublime degree of Master Masons. Bros. Pilbrow, Steng, Pollitzer and Chambers were passed to the Degree of Fellow Crafts. Bro. E. Holland, No. 144, was elected a joining member, and Mr. A. Isaacs was duly initiated into the Order. The various ceremonies being very ably rendered by the W.M. Bro. D. Barnett, a junior member of the Lodge, announced his intention of acting as Steward for the next Festival of the Boys' School. It was then stated that application should be made for the Centenary Jewel, the Lodge Warrant bearing date 1774. A notice of motion was given by Bro. C. C. Taylor P.M. that the initiation fee be in future £10 10s, and the joining fee be £5 5s; the present number of members being 116. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren, eighty in number, sat down to a very excellent banquet, provided by Bro. Clemow and superintended by Bro. Smith. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given; that of the newly initiated followed; Bro. Themans I.P.M. proposed the toast of the W.M. and spoke of his able working; the W.M. briefly and suitably replied; the toast of the visitors followed, to which Bro. H. M. Levy P.M. 188 responded. Amongst those present we noticed Bros. Sharples, J. Goode 149, J. Van Raalte 917, A. F. Rowley 917, W. Withall 720, Cooper P.M. 733, Maynard 177, Woodward 1393, Baylis 346, Carter W.M. 209, M. Rosenheim, &c. The W.M., in proposing the toast of the Past Masters, alluded to their various working qualities, and stated the Lodge was ancient, and it was prosperous, and its prosperity was due to those brethren who were its custodians; Bro. Stuart responded to the toast. Bros. S. Davis, Mallett and Walls sang some beautiful songs, and Bro. Rosenheim was a very able accompanist.

Temperance Lodge, No. 169.—The usual monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, 18th inst., at the White Swan Tavern, High-street, Deptford. There were present Bros. J. Dingle W.M., Debac S.W., J. G. Neeld J.W., T. Denton S.D., G. L. Moore J.D., R. A. Morgan I.G. Past Masters George Bolton, G. Brown Treasurer, and J. Rosenstock. Bros. G. Nye, G. Murray, T. Lachariason, W. Mallett, W. Baker, W. Monk, T. Wallis, J. W. Beddoe, T. R. Reynolds, F. W. Bryan, M. Deavin, G. Holst, W. Tibbals, H. Brown, R. Smith, W. Leggett, W. Predham, and several other brethren. Visitors, Bro. H. Martin 382, and T. Hamley S.W. 13. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Messrs. S. Holst, J. B. Dean, G. Skeudder, J. D. Dale and F. Leah, which proved unanimous. The Lodge was opened in second degree, and Bros. H. Brown, G. Murray, W. Sanderson, L. Stevens, T. Baker, T. Wallis, and W. H. Wilton having answered the usual questions retired, and the Lodge was opened in the third degree, and these brethren were raised. The Lodge was resumed in first degree and Mr. S. Holst and J. G. Dale were initiated into Freemasonry as E.A.P.'s. Bro. D. P. Jenkins having answered the usual questions retired, and the Lodge was resumed in second degree, and Bro. Jenkins was passed to the F.C.'s degree. The Lodge was resumed in first degree, and closed. The brethren and visitors adjourned to an excellent banquet, when, the usual Masonic toasts having been given, the brethren departed, well satisfied with their evening's enjoyment.

New Concord Lodge, No. 813.—This Lodge, so celebrated for its perfect working, met on the 18th inst., at the Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton. Bro. T. Bartlett W.M., supported by the Officers and Past Masters. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. Boyden, Forge and Baylis were raised to the third degree, Bros. Smalley and Hertfield were passed to the second degree, and Mr. F. Dunn was initiated into the Order. The election for W.M. then took place, and Bro. Gabb was unanimously chosen. Bro. Sinclair was re-elected Treasurer, and Speight Tyler, Bros. Spratt and George were elected Auditors. A Past Master's Jewel was proposed to be presented to Bro. T. Bartlett, the retiring W.M., for the able and efficient manner in which he had conducted the duties of his office, and the esteem he is held in by the brethren (this being the second time he had been W.M. of the Lodge). Bro. Cusworth J.D. announced his intention to act as Steward at the next anniversary Festival for the Boys' School. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren partook of a very capital banquet, provided by Bro. H.

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Gabb. Bro. J. Emmens P.G.P. returned thanks for the Grand Officers. Replies followed from Bros. W. H. Main P.M. Sec. and Gallant J.W. Bro. D. H. Jacobs P.M. 27 returned thanks for the visitors, who were Bros. Stringcombe and Fowkes. Bros. D. H. Jacobs, Taylor, Wicks, Vernon and Baylis contributed to the harmony.

Cherwell Lodge, No. 599, Banbury.—The anniversary of this Lodge was held at the Red Lion Hotel, on Monday last, when Bro. Holford C. Risley was installed as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. The ceremony of installation was impressively performed by Bro. R. Havers P.S.G.D. of England. Bro. Risley afterwards invested his officers as follows:—Bros. J. Potts Senior Warden, Rev. J. Spittal Junior Warden, Rev. A. Ayton Chaplain, R. Havers P.S.G.D. Treasurer, J. Looker P.M. Secretary, E. J. Hartley P.M. Senior Deacon, C. L. H. Pemberton P.M. Junior Deacon, J. Griffin P.M. Director of Ceremonies, W. Chamberlin and T. Fowler Stewards, R. C. Humfrey Inner Guard, T. Moss Tyler.

Maybury Lodge, No. 969.—This Lodge met on Wednesday, the 17th instant, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Bros. Charles Dickens W.M., Talbot Smith S.W., Norton J.W., Smallpiece Secretary, Savory S.D., C. W. Thompson J.D., Pinches I.G.; Past Masters—T. Thorne, David James, and Churchill. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. H. Byron was passed to the 2nd degree. It is needless to observe that the working of the degrees, and the various matters in connection with the Lodge were carried out in the usual perfect manner. There being no other business the Lodge was closed. No banquet took place.

St. Peter's Lodge, Tiverton, No. 1125.—The regular monthly meeting of this Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, on Thursday, 18th inst., Bro. T. Parkhouse W.M. presiding. After the confirmation of the minutes of the former meeting, Bro. Mills P.M. and Secretary, presented to the Lodge an elegant album, to contain the photographs of present and future members, on the first leaf of which was a life-like cabinet portrait of their much beloved P.G.M., the R.W. and Rev. John Huyshe M.A. in full Masonic costume. Thanks having been voted to the donors of the album, the Lodge was opened up to the 3rd degree, and Bro. John Luxton (who had been duly examined and entrusted) was raised to the sublime degree of M.M. On resuming work in the 1st degree a candidate was proposed for initiation, and the Lodge was finally closed. On Monday last, 22nd inst., all that was mortal of Bro. Thomas P. Beedell deceased, late a member of Fidelity Lodge, No. 230, was interred in the family vault of St. George's Church in this town, several brethren of St. Peter's Lodge attending the funeral, wearing white gloves and having a black rosette on the left arm. Upon the procession entering the church the "Dead March in Saul" was performed on the organ by Bro. Mills P.M., P.G.O., and at the conclusion of the service the brethren passed round the grave, and dropped sprigs of acacia on the coffin.

Southern Star Lodge, No. 1158.—This successful Lodge met on Tuesday, 23rd inst., at the Montpelier Tavern, Walworth. On account of the amount of business, the W.M. thought it necessary to call a Lodge of Emergency, which was well attended by the brethren and many visitors. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last meeting confirmed; the Lodge was then opened in the second and third degrees, and Bros. Holloway, Fane, Bishop, Cass and McDonald were raised to M.M. The W.M. then resumed the Lodge in the second degree, and Bros. Wootton, Colegrave, Hadfield and Schrader were passed to the degree of Fellow Craft, the W.M. then resumed the Lodge in the first degree, there being the names of ten gentlemen on the summons for initiation. All were present but one. The W.M. took the first five, and the ballot for them proving unanimous, he initiated into the Order Mr. L. Creasy, Mr. J. Banker, Captain W. Dawson, Mr. E. J. Heaps, and Mr. J. H. Bray. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a very sumptuous banquet in the dining-hall. The following officers were present:—Bros. J. Wright W.M., Wise S.W., McDonald J.W., Walters S.D., Wise J.D., R. Harris I.G., Pulsford P.M. Secretary, A. Wright P.M. Treasurer, Clarke P.M. Visitors—Bros. C. Scruton W.M. Temperance in the East 89, W. Mortlock P.M. Union Waterloo 13, H. R. Wagner W.M. Royal Arthur 1360, H. A. Parke 9, Philadelphia, New York, &c., &c.

St. John's Lodge, No. 1343, Grays, Essex.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday evening, 18th Feb. Bro. R. Nicholls W.M. in the chair. The Lodge was opened in the first degree, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The balance, as shown by the auditor's reports, in the hands of the Treasurer, amounted to £9 5s 9d. The Lodge was then opened in the second degree, and the installation proceeded with, Bro. J. W. Carr P.G.S. reading the charges. The Lodge was then opened in the third degree, and Bro. David Robertson was then installed by Bro. John Noke P.M. 781. After the brethren had saluted the W.M. in the usual manner, the officers were appointed as follows, viz.: Bros. J. Ash S.W., Golden Allen J.W., W. M. Sackell Secretary, Rea Corbet J.D., A. Sturgeon S.D., Joseph Earps I.G., G. Fox Tyler, Rev. J. H. Bridge Chaplain. Bro. Noke P.M. then gave the addresses. The Lodge was then closed, and adjourned until 18th March 1875. The banquet was served in a very satisfactory manner by Bro. Bartlett, and on the cloth being removed, the usual patriotic and Masonic toasts were given, and a very enjoyable evening spent. Amongst the visitors may be mentioned Bros. John W. Carr P.G. Secretary, C. Jolly P.G. Secretary 87, A. Tucking P.G.D. and W.M. 1000, P.M. 160, W. J. Chignell 1000, J. A. Wardell P.P.G.D. W.M. 160, John Coutts P.M. 27, 1310, 1348 P.G.P., C. Relph P.M. 77, 188, Kent, P.P.S.J.D., R. French J.W. 483, W. C. King Freedom 77, Kent.

Earl of Zetland Lodge, No. 1364.—A meeting of this Lodge was held at the Old Town Hall, Hackney, on Saturday last. The chair was occupied by Bro. J. L. Fysh W.M., supported by the following officers: Bros. Fieldwick I.G. S.W. *pro tem*, R. A. Wright P.M. Treasurer, W. Bristo P.M. Secretary, J. H. Maples S.D., H. W. Gomperts J.D., H. T. Lowe D.C., J. Haskins Organist, L. A. Leins P.M. Bros. G. J. Pope, J. Crosbie, W. H. Hollendin, T. Keene, O. Ditmar, A. Bessinger, F. Kearney, J. Hogarty, R. Buckler, P. G. Ferdinands, W. Green, J. Seward, C. Oliver, D. H. Feltham, J. Humble, H. M. Dalton, J. P. Fitzgerald, W. S. Norris, F. H. Dalton. The Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of last Lodge read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Messrs. E. J. Anning and H. Mitchell, which was in their favour. Bros. Bessinger and Cooper having proved proficiency in this degree, were entrusted and retired. The Lodge was opened in second degree, and these two brethren were passed to the degree of Fellow Crafts. Bro. Oliver, having answered the usual questions, retired. The Lodge was opened in the third degree, and Bro. Oliver was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. The Lodge was resumed in first degree, and and Mr. H. Mitchell and Mr. E. J. Anning were initiated into Freemasonry as entered apprentices. The Lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned to slight refreshment. The visitors were Bros. G. W. Saul 1201, J. W. Hill 1278, W. J. Burdett 1293 and S. Brown 1426.

Albert Edward Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 1429, Newport, Monmouthshire.—This, the junior Lodge of the Province of Monmouth, was honoured on Thursday, the 11th inst., by an official visit from Bro. Col. Lyne P.G.M., Bro. Captain George Homfray D.P.G.M., and other officers and brethren of the Province at the Masonic Hall, Dock Street. Bro. William Watkins W.M., presiding over a large attendance of brethren. After disposing of the business the W.M. thanked the P.G.M., the D.P.G.M., and other visiting brethren, for the honour they had done in visiting them on this occasion. The vote having been passed, and ordered to be recorded, both the P.G.M. and D.P.G.M. expressed the pleasure it afforded them in being present, and their great gratification at the able manner in which the business had been conducted. Another pleasing feature in the proceedings was the announcement by the W.M. that Bro. J. C. Parkinson, an officer of distinction in the G.L. of England, had presented to the Albert Edward Lodge an elegantly bound and beautifully executed copy of his book, containing a cleverly compiled history of the Bard of Avon Lodge, which the author had been mainly instrumental in resuscitating. The highly valued presentation was accompanied by a letter, in which regret was expressed at the inability of Bro. J. C. Parkinson to be present at the banquet, as well as his good wishes for the continued prosperity of the Lodge. A hearty vote of thanks, moved by Bro. C. Rowe I.P.M., and seconded by Bro. J. Horner, Treasurer 1429, was passed, and a minute was ordered to be recorded, viz.: "That a cordial vote of thanks of the W.M. and brethren of the Albert Edward Prince of Wales Lodge be given to the Worshipful Bro. J. C. Parkinson G.O. of England and D.P.G.M. Middlesex, for kindly presenting this Lodge with a copy of his interesting and instructive work, 'The History of the Bard of Avon Lodge, No. 778,' and, in consideration of his great Masonic and intellectual attainments, the brethren with pleasure unanimously elect him an honorary member of Lodge 1429." The Lodge having been closed the brethren repaired to the Westgate Hotel, where Bro. S. T. Hallen had provided a sumptuous banquet. Covers being laid for about seventy. Among the brethren who sat down were Wm. Watkins W.M. and P.G.S. Wks. President, Charles Lyne P.G.M., S. G. Homfray D.P.G.M., L. A. Homfray P.P.G.S.W., James Abernethy, Lodge of Unanimity, Wakefield, Yorkshire, W. W. Morgan P.M. Isca 683, J. S. Adam P.M. 90 P.G.J.D., J. Griffiths P.M. 471, Louis Hermessen D.C. 1429, J. G. Huxtable S.W. 1429, 471, J. W. Bebel Secretary 1429, 471, F. Orders S.D. 1429, 471, Charles P. Evans S. 471, John James J.D. 1429, 471, H. Gratte P.M. 471 P.P.G.S.D., W. H. W. Homfray W.M. 683 P.P.G.S.B., Charles Rowe I.P.M. 1429 and 471, C. R. Lyne S.W. 471 and P.G.S.B., William Pickford P.M. 471 P.G.T., R. J. Chambers P.M. 683 P.P.G.R., W. B. Broad P.M. 457 P.P.G.J.D, P.P.G.S., John Thomas S.W. 457, William Welsford 1429, H. Fletcher Tyler 1429, &c. The usual toasts were given and responded to with enthusiasm, and after an agreeable evening, in the course of which several excellent songs were admirably sung, the brethren separated. It should be added that after the toast "The Masonic Charities," an appeal was made, and the sum of £16 was subscribed in the room, with a guarantee that it would be made up to £20, exclusive of the sum of ten guineas voted in the Lodge.

Metropolitan Lodge, No. 1507.—This Lodge met at the Metropolitan Club, No. 269 Pentonville Road, on Thursday, the 18th instant, Bros. J. Willing jun. W.M., Michael S.W., Williams J.W., G. Tims P.M. Secretary, Child S.D., Kingham J.D., J. Douglass (Standard Theatre) I.G., R. Fowler D.C., Scales W.S., and Daly Tyler. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. Gilbert, Cox, Easey and Brumell were raised to the 3rd degree. Bros. Hatton, J. Tims, A. Horton and Rogers were passed to the 2nd degree. Messrs. Shand, Sainsbury and Tritton were initiated into the Order. The working of the W.M. and every officer deserves praise, and the attention paid to the various ceremonies by the candidates showed they were deeply impressed. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a very excellent banquet provided by Bro. Cox, the manager of the club. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given. Bro. G. Tims P.M. and Secretary then rose and proposed the toast of the W.M., Bro. Jas. Willing, whose name was a "Household Word" in Freemasonry; he is a member and an officer of the Domatic Lodge, but in this Lodge, where he occupied the proud position of Master, he had well done all that was required of him, and the Treasurer had £70 in hand. He hoped, before long, the Lodge would be Life Governors for all the Masonic Charities. The W.M. having

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suitably replied, gave the toast of the newly initiated. Bro. Sainsbury responded. The toast of the visitors, Bros. J. S. Briggs P.M. 157, Ferguson P.M. 177, Linzell P.M. 1237, G. Everett W.M. 177, Higgins 184, and F. Smith P.M. 862, was responded to by Bro. Everett, who paid a deserved compliment to the Worshipful Master, not only for his perfect working, but also for the admirable manner he had presided over them, and his great advocacy in the cause of charity. The W.M. announced that the Lodge of Instruction in connection with the Lodge would be held every Friday evening, when Bro. Adams, the veteran Preceptor, would give his aid to those brethren who wished to have the benefit of his instruction. He then proposed the toast of the Secretary, Bro. Tims, and regretted the absence of the Treasurer, who was well calculated to carry out any duties required of him. Bros. Michael S.W. and Williams J.W. responded to the toast of the Wardens. The Brethren separated after the Tyler's toast. Bro. Scales may be congratulated on the admirable manner he looked after the comfort of the brethren and visitors. Bros. Side, Michael and Styles contributed to the harmony of the evening.

Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, No. 1507.—The second meeting of this Lodge was held at the Metropolitan Club, 269 Pentonville Road, on Friday, the 19th instant, Bro. Kingham, acting as W.M., opened the Lodge. He was supported by Bros. Side as S.W., J. Willing jun. as J.W., Scales I.G. and T. Adams P.G.M. as Preceptor. Bro. Kingham rehearsed the ceremony of the 1st degree, and the 1st and 2nd sections of that degree. Bro. Michael then took the chair, and worked the ceremony of the 3rd degree, Bro. Cavet acting as candidate. A vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Kingham for his capital working, after which the Lodge was closed until the following Friday.

The Gladsmuir Chapter, No. 1385, Herts, was formally opened and consecrated on Thursday afternoon by E. Comp. F. H. Wilson Iles M.D. P.Z. and S.E. Watford Chapter, No. 404, assisted by E. Comp. James Terry P.Z., Nos. 174, 403, and 975. There were present, among others, E. Companions T. F. Halsey M.P. Pro. G.M. Herts, G. Ward Verry, J. R. Cocks P.Z. 403, F. Binckes P.G.S., Secretary Boys' School, &c. After the consecration, Comps. T. S. Carter M.E.Z. Designate, John Lowthin H. Designate, and William Cutbush J. Designate were severally installed. The ceremonies of consecration and installation were very impressively performed by the officiating Companions. Five candidates were proposed for exaltation, after which the Chapter was closed, and the Companions adjourned to banquet. In the course of the evening M.E.Z. Comp. T. S. Carter proposed the health of Comp. T. F. Halsey, and expressed a hope that it would not be long ere a Prov. Grand Chapter for Herts was instituted, and that the Companions would be in a position to hail Comp. Halsey as Prov. Grand Superintendent. Comp. Halsey acknowledged the toast very cordially, expressing his readiness to assume the position indicated by M.E.Z. Comp. Carter, and generally congratulated all present on the very flourishing state of Freemasonry in his province. We subjoin the *menu*, which it is almost needless to say gave very great satisfaction, and the list of toasts; nor ought we to omit mention of the *cartes*, which were characteristically printed, and excited no little admiration.

Bill of Fare.

Mock Turtle, Chicken and Rice, and Oyster Soups.

Fried Fillets of Soles. Red Mullets.
Salmon and Cucumber. Eels and Tomatoes.
Cod Fish and Oyster Sauce.

Boiled Chickens, with Mushrooms.
Aitchbone of Beef and French Carrots.
York Ham. Roast Turkey.
Quarter of House Lamb.

Ducklings. Guinea Fowls. Wild Ducks.

Cabinet, Plum Puddings and Mince Pies.
Gooseberry Pie.
Stewed Damsons and Cream.
Tartlets. Custards. Calves Foot Jellies.
Ice Pudding. Vanilla Cream.

Sherry. Hock. White Hermitage.
Champagne. Sparkling Hock. Port. Claret.

Dessert. Coffee.

Toasts.

The Queen and Royal Arch Masonry.

The M.E. Gd. Z., H.R.H. The Prince of Wales.

The Gd. H. and J., the Earl of Carnarvon and Lord de Tabley, and the rest of the Grand Officers past and present.

The Three Principals of the Chapter.

The Consecrating and Installing Officers.

The Visitors.

The Officers of the Chapter.

The Masonic Institutions.

The Janitor's Toast.

The *Western Times* reports a singular incident in connection with the recovery of a valuable locket. After Sir Garnet Wolseley and his staff had gone on board the Walmer Castle, at Dartmouth, Captain Lord Gifford, one of the staff, who greatly distinguished himself in the Ashantee War, incidentally mentioned to his brother officers that he lost in Coomassie a valuable and highly-prized locket, whereupon Major Butler, also of the staff, remarked that he had bought a locket of a black man. It was recognized by Lord Gifford as the one he had lost, and which he had offered a large reward to recover. It was, of course, immediately returned.

THE DRAMA.

Revival of The Maid's Tragedy—Mr. Hare at the Court—Hamlet.

THE revival of Beaumont and Fletcher's fine drama, *The Maid's Tragedy*, deserves a more extended notice than we were able to bestow upon it last week. Sheridan and Goldsmith's comedies—or at least such of them as *The Critic*, *The Rivals*, *The School for Scandal* and *She Stoops to Conquer*—every playgoer has the opportunity of seeing now and again, at not far distant intervals. Shakspeare, too, although at times neglected by theatrical managers, in favour of more modern fare, can hardly be considered as altogether banished from the London stage. But Beaumont and Fletcher have long been relegated to the study, and the opportunity of seeing any of their productions upon the stage is an event to be noticed. The version now being performed at the Holborn Amphitheatre is the one produced at the Haymarket under Mr. Webster's management in 1837. The *Bridal*, as this version is entitled, is in many respects very unlike the original play. Passages of a broad and licentious character are omitted, the *denouement* is materially altered, and the general tone much softened. As now performed at the Amphitheatre, the character of Melantius, formerly played by Mr. Macready, is sustained with considerable intelligence by Mr. Creswick, whilst Mr. Pennington appears in the part of Amintor. Evadne is very creditably played by Miss Leighton, but other of the parts are not so adequately filled. The revival is, nevertheless, one of considerable interest, and the curiosity it excites will probably attract a large number of persons to the theatre.

The re-opening of the Court Theatre, under the management of the talented actor, Mr. Hare, is looked forward to with great interest by all people who take pleasure in the performance of high class modern comedy. Mr. Hare is one of our few young actors who have shown real originality. His rendering of such parts as Prince Perovski in *Ours*, Sam Gerridge in *Caste*, and Beau Farmicob in *School*—all creations of his own, by the way—was such as to stamp the man as a genuine actor. At the Court he will be supported by Mr. and Mrs. Kendall, Miss Amy Fawcett, and Mr. John Clayton, and it can scarcely be doubted that, with such an excellent array of comedy power, some very interesting performances may be expected.

Yesterday *Hamlet* reached its 100th representation, and its power of attraction remains unimpaired. Crowded houses every night betoken the genuine desire of playgoers to witness this performance, and should certainly encourage other managers to follow out the same programme. When, we wonder, will Drury Lane condescend to patronise the immortal bard?

LONDON BALLAD CONCERTS.

The last concert of Mr. John Boosey's ninth season of ballad concerts was given on Wednesday night in St. James's Hall. Although the state of the weather prevented a great audience, there was a large number of musically disposed amateurs present, to whom the entertainment appeared wholly satisfactory. As regards the selection *per se*, there is little occasion for remark; old and modern songs, familiar enough in musical circles, were given by Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, Miss Sterling, Miss Frances Courtenay, Madame Osborne Williams, and Miss Edith Wynne; Mr. Edward Lloyd and Mr. Santley. Madame Sherrington's contributions were Molloy's "Dresden China," Sir Julius Benedict's new song, "Love's Appeal," and Claribel's "Come back to Erin." Mr. Santley, in the old ballads, "The Leather Bottel," "The Fine Old English Gentleman," and "The Vicar of Bray," secured his customary success; and Mr. Lloyd, in Mr. Sullivan's "Love laid his sleepless head," and B. Tour's new song, "Two Dreams," obtained a hearty reception. The past season has been justly popular. Although deprived to a certain extent of the services of Mr. Sims Reeves, the entertainments have been supported in an able manner; the vocalists have been purely representative—that is, ballad singers—and the instrumental soloists have been chosen with due regard to the exigencies of public taste. What good these concerts render to the cause of art we shall not stay to consider, but it is patent that entertainments which at all times exercise so powerful an attraction must exert a certain amount of influence. If they tend to the better cultivation of ballad singing—the purest, at the same time most difficult form of vocal art—we shall be well satisfied, as will be others musically interested; and if they lead to the production of fresh compositions from native sources, the musical world must derive a benefit therefrom. We are glad, therefore, to look back upon the past season of ballad concerts with satisfaction, and to feel that the efforts of the *impresario*, Mr. John Boosey, have not been misdirected.—*Standard*.

In consequence of a memorial signed by the presidents and other members of the chief scientific societies, the funeral of the late Sir Charles Lyell will be solemnised in Westminster Abbey to-day at 1 p.m.

The *Kent Herald* understands that the Prince of Wales has promised to visit Margate in June next, for the purpose of opening the asylum now in course of erection for the deaf and dumb.

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THE "ALEXANDRA" LODGE, No. 1511, HORNSEA.

FOR some years past there had existed a desire on the part of several brethren of the Craft resident in this favourite little Yorkshire watering place, and others who spend a considerable portion of their time there during the summer months, that a Masonic Lodge should be founded in the locality. Hornsea is a delightfully sequestered little nook on the east coast, about 16 miles from Hull, and of late years the population has been considerably augmented by a large number of merchants and principal tradesmen of that borough, who have set up their country houses on the elevation overlooking the sea. In fact, it has become to Hull a suburban retreat, where summer pic-nics and school treats are held nearly every day in the week during the season. The united efforts of the Masons who had thus taken up their residence in the place, and of those who so frequently visit it, for the purpose of health and recreation, culminated in a resolution to establish a Lodge, and, on the requisite number of signatures having been obtained, the petition was sent to the Grand Master, who in due course forwarded the warrant or charter of constitution. Bro. Thomas Oates Prov. G. Organist, was approved as the Worshipful Master designate, and Bros. B. L. Wells and William Carr as the first Wardens. The founders at once entered upon their work, and the house adjoining the Alexandra Hotel was selected as the most appropriate for the Lodge. The upper portion has been admirably adapted to the purposes required, and the whole of the fittings are in strict accordance with the Masonic regulations. The jewels, &c. have been supplied from designs furnished by the W.M. The R.W. the Earl of Zetland, Prov. G.M. of North and East Yorkshire, commissioned his deputy, Bro. J. Pearson Bell S.G.D. of England, to perform the ceremony, which took place on the 26th of December last, when there was a large attendance of the brethren from Hull, Driffield, Malton, &c. Bro. Thomas Oates was duly installed as the first Master, and he invested his officers as follows: Bros. B. L. Wells S.W., W. Carr J.W., John Thompson P.M. Treasurer, Thomas Liggins Secretary, M. P Hockney S.D., W. Travis Colbeck J.D., H. E. Voight Director of Ceremonies, T. J. Shackles I.G., and T. Crier Tyler. A banquet subsequently took place, and appropriate speeches were delivered by the Worshipful the Mayor of Hull, Bro. Alderman Charles Wells P.M., and many other influential members of the Craft in the district. Since that time it is very gratifying to announce that the Lodge has succeeded far beyond the anticipations of its promoters, and it bids fair to become one of the most unique and admirably appointed Lodges in the province. Several new members have been admitted, and a large number of applications are crowding in from others who are desirous of participating in the privileges of the Craft. It is worthy of remark, however, that the utmost discrimination is being exercised by the officers as to the admission of candidates, the main object sought being to secure a highly respectable and working body of members, rather than to extend the benefits of the Lodge to all comers, and thus to have an unwieldy number, and of diluted quality. The working of the Lodge has, up to this time, been perfect, and the confidence reposed in the officers is unbounded. Thus in all respects the efforts of its promoters have been abundantly realised, and we are confident that the utmost success must inevitably attend the future career of the "Alexandra" Lodge.

The House of Lords consists of five Princes of the Blood, 28 Dukes, 32 Marquises, 171 Earls, 37 Viscounts, 26 Prelates, and 192 Barons. John Wilson Patten, Lord Winmarleigh, is still the junior Lord.

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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. I.—No. 10. SATURDAY, 6th MARCH 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

SOCIAL CHANGES.

READERS of Carlyle's "Chartism," and "Past and Present," well remember his sad predictions with reference to the future of England. At the time when the former work was written the country was in the throes of something that seemed like a revolution. The Reform Bill of 1832 had been in operation for several years; it had been passed under the impression that an extension of the franchise was the best method of putting an end to the discord which reigned, and to the jarring of class interests. It really did prove a specific for the cure of these evils, or at all events, it allayed them for a time. Thirty years of peace and prosperity have told upon us; but if England is vastly richer to day than she was when Cobbett informed his countrymen that manufacturers were a delusion and a snare, she has not quite entered upon those halcyon days when the leonine capitalist is to lie down with the gentle operative lamb. We are in the midst of a great social revolution which is destined to leave enduring marks behind it. Living as we do in the midst of the dust and the contention which is going on around us, we fail to see the actual drift or bearings of the conflict. We are like the rank and file in a pitched battle, who only know that troops are moving, that shots are being fired, and that men are falling on all sides. Some of the salient features of this social conflict are strange enough. But a few years ago it seemed as if the thews and sinews of the English workman had become a drug in the market. He was willing to work, but work enough for all the ready hands which were held up in the labour market was not to be had. Now, however, there is work in plenty for all who care to exert themselves, and we are confronted with the astounding phenomenon of a working population who will not work. The industrious English mechanic is rapidly losing his high character, and is earning for himself the reputation of caring nothing for the future of his country, or for the welfare of those dependent upon him.

It would be perhaps easy for us to attempt the solution of these startling phenomena. We might perhaps show that the partial paralysis of the labourer has been caused by sudden and exceptional prosperity; that he has not been prepared for the good fortune that has come upon him. We might show to those whose faith in the steady growth of English prosperity has been rudely shaken, that the time is again approaching when the workman will be obliged to take his hands out of his pockets and endeavour to prevent some of the trade of this country from finding its way into foreign channels. All this however would not in any degree throw light upon the present. Why have we these social revolutions at all? why are the people so restless? why, in short, can we not go on as smoothly as our ancestors are supposed to have jogged on in the past? The answer is simple enough to those who care to think at all, and we may give it in a few words. We are convulsed with social changes, simply because we possess enormous inherent vitality. Social changes are a proof of the growth of a nation; discord between classes, when confined to certain limits, is one of those signs of healthy vigour which every statesman is glad to recognise. It is certainly true that the people are dissatisfied with their social position; it is equally certain that the middle and upper ranks of society are dissatisfied with the conduct, and are ready to discourage the aspirations of those below them. We do not deny that Trades Unions have exercised an appreciable influence over the working classes of the community. If operatives are less industrious than they were; if they are less amenable to control, and less satisfied with their pastors and masters, these societies have had something to do with the change. He however would be a shallow thinker who should regard the Trades Unions as the ultimate cause of the social revolution which is going on around us. They are rather the effect of the deep-seated restlessness and discontent of the people.

The hypothesis which has been gravely put forth by some writers, to the effect that a few demagogues have been able to set England in a blaze, is too absurd for serious refutation. We do not find in history that the light scum upon the turbulent waters of revolution was ever regarded as the cause of the deep and broad stream. We find indeed that in all ages the discontent of the masses has found utterance, and those who have been spokesmen have too often been the unconscious tools of their fellows. However trying or inconvenient these social changes may be to us, we should find cause for rejoicing in the fact that the ruling authorities of the nation have been sagacious enough to prepare a channel sufficiently wide and deep to carry off, harmlessly, the threatening storm waters of revolution. Mr. Disraeli's Reform Act has latterly been the subject of much adverse criticism, but we venture to say that it will prove in the end to be a great Conservative measure. We do not indeed imagine that its conservatism will run in the paltry little channels which party journalists have scooped out for it. But that it will help materially to solve our social problems we do not for a moment doubt. Social and political revolutions abroad usually end in anarchy and bloodshed. In this country, however, we manage to settle our differences without losing our heads. We have learned to differ without coming to blows, and if the classes below us are destined to take a higher place in the social scale than that which they have hitherto held, we may rest assured that they will fall into their new positions without materially deranging the complex machinery of the glorious constitution under which we live.

Masons, as such, have little to do with either social or political changes, but the grand principles of the Order have taught us all the true principles of toleration, and we can look upon the movements of the lower classes with abounding charity, and full confidence in the ultimate triumph of the sterling qualities which underlie the English character.

CONVIVIALITY.

CONVIVIALITY is a virtue, the cultivation of which is essential to the well-being of everybody. We may have our doubts as to what constitutes this virtue; we may question the time when its exercise is most opportune; but we cannot doubt—the experience of every age and nation forbids us to doubt—that without Conviviality this world of ours would be a sorry place to live in. What is Conviviality? It were pedantic, perhaps, to lay down a hard and fast definition of it, but there can be no objection to our stating what it is not—at least in our estimation. Conviviality is not merely the simple pleasure we derive from some feast or banquet, or other kind of social entertainment. It is not the momentary interchange of friendliness which chance association brings with it. Still less is it the prepared intercourse of men with one another for the mere purposes of sensual enjoyment. Conviviality means more, or other than this. It implies, to begin with, a kinship

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of spirit among the *convives*. They must be men animated by the same kind of feeling. They must have a common purpose in view, and that purpose must be what our Gallic friends describe as *spirituel*. This purpose must be a good one; the feelings that animate them must stand the fire of hostile criticism, for Conviviality hath nought in common with what is evil or evil minded. Conviviality and austerity are the antipodes of each other. The former is simple and straightforward, assuming everything to be what it seems till it is tried to be otherwise. The latter regards everything and everybody with a stern, if not an evil regard, till they have been tried and found not wanting. A convivial is a good man in the fullest sense of the word. He is religious, for no men can appreciate what is good without possessing the sense of thankfulness, and thankfulness is of the essence of religion. He he has in him, so to speak, the milk of human kindness. To live in concert with others implies a sense of friendliness for them. Solitude, which in some form or other pertains to selfishness, is impossible. He lives not with himself or for himself; but with others and for others. He is ever on the outlook to do good. The sense of pleasure he feels excites in him the desire to promote pleasure for others. Conviviality, in fact, implies not only social, but moral and religious excellence.

But to pass to the Conviviality which is most familiar to us, and the comprehension of which is possibly less trying. The Convivial man, in common parlance, is a right jovial good fellow. He has been so always and everywhere. This is no slight praise. To dub a man jovial and good implies that he possesses some qualities that are admirable, though the exact nature of these qualities may be somewhat loosely defined. But the sense we usually apply to this description involves no obscurity of meaning whatever. We should never think of so describing an ill-natured or unkindly man, one who could not find enjoyment for himself, and was incapable, therefore, of promoting it for others. The right jovial fellow enjoys life, and makes a point of doing so. Better still, he is careful that others shall be in the same boat, or, at all events, follow in the same track. He loves enjoyment, not only for its sake, for his own sake, and for the sake of his companions; but likewise as a means to an end, so that he may help others to enjoy themselves. Hence, not unwisely perhaps, the banquet or other similar entertainment is most commonly the chosen opportunity for cultivating this virtue. Some will insist, of course, that this virtue, or rather this particular development of it, savours very strongly of selfishness—the attainment of one's own pleasure first, and then the promotion of that of other people. We have already, to a certain extent, anticipated this objection. Mere sensual enjoyment by no means constitutes, in our opinion, Conviviality. It may be an element in it, but it is very far from being the whole. Experience has taught us that good invariably results from the free intercourse of men with each other. They become, in the first instance, more sociable, then more friendly amongst themselves, and so gradually towards others. The more frequent then these opportunities for cultivating these friendly relations, the better it is for all classes of men, for Conviviality is the declared enemy of prejudice, whether it be one's own opinion or that of a class. Hence, again, the banquet has been fitly chosen, to inaugurate all meetings for charitable purposes. It is not the mere pleasures of the table which help forward the work of charity, but the free and friendly intercourse to which the banquet gives rise. The liberal-minded man is confirmed in his liberality, the doubts of the hesitating are removed. All the world over this virtue, whether in its narrowest or most extended meaning, and charity go hand-in-hand together. Each helps the other forward. The Convivial man is charitable, the charitable man Convivial. No wonder then, in Masonry, as in all things else, the two are inseparable.

ASSYRIAN DISCOVERIES.

THE *Daily Telegraph* announces further important Assyrian discoveries by Mr. George Smith, its Special Commissioner. In a letter which our contemporary published on Thursday, this gentleman states that he has found important tablets, containing an account of the Creation and Fall of Man. The Assyrian story is much fuller than that of Genesis, and it appears to be an earlier version. Mr. Smith is extremely fortunate. We have not forgotten that he was lucky enough to find the remaining fragments containing the story of the Deluge, long after the discovery of the earlier portion of the same tradition. We most sincerely hope that these additions to our knowledge of the ancient world may prove to be as important as we are led to believe them to be. Mr. Smith is a very able man, and no one doubts his scholarship, but he may be deceived. We do not say that he has been imposed upon by a practical joker, but the coincidences connected with his discoveries are so remarkable that we shall be glad to hear that the tablets have been submitted to a closer examination by a competent committee of Archæologists specially skilled in the cuneiform characters. If, after due inquiry, it should be proved that the Chaldeans had a tradition of the Creation and Fall, and of the Deluge, we shall be glad to welcome these astounding additions to our knowledge, though we confess that we shall require some time to digest the facts. As our readers are doubtless interested in a question of this kind, we subjoin an extract from Mr. Smith's letter:—

"The first series, which I may call 'The Story of the Creation and Fall,' when complete must have consisted of nine or ten tables at least, and the history upon it is much longer and fuller than the corresponding account in the Book of Genesis. With respect to these Genesis narratives, a furious strife has existed for years; every word has been scanned by eager scholars, and every possible meaning which the various passages could bear, has been suggested; while the age and authenticity of the narratives have been discussed on all sides. In particular, it may be said that the account of the fall of man, the heritage of all Christian countries, has been the centre of this controversy, for it is one of the pivots on which the Christian religion turns. The world-wide importance of these subjects will therefore give the newly-discovered inscriptions, and especially the one relating to the Fall, an unparalleled value, and I am glad, indeed, that such a treasure should have resulted from your expedition.

Whatever the primitive account may have been from which the earlier part of the Book of Genesis was copied, it is evident that the brief narration given in the Pentateuch omits a number of incidents and explanations—for instance, as to the origin of evil, the fall of the angels, the wickedness of the serpent, &c. Such points as these are included in the Cuneiform narrative; but of course I can say little about them until I prepare full translations of the legends.

The narrative on the Assyrian tablets commences with a description of the period before the world was created, when there existed a chaos or confusion. The desolate and empty state of the universe, and the generation by chaos of monsters are vividly given. The chaos is presided over by a female power named Tisalat and Tiamat, corresponding to the Thalatth of Berosus; but as it proceeds the Assyrian account agrees rather with the Bible than with the short account from Berosus. We are told, in the inscriptions, of the fall of the celestial being who appears to correspond to Satan. In his ambition he raises his hand against the sanctuary of the God of heaven, and the description of him is really magnificent. He is represented riding in a chariot through celestial space, surrounded by the storms, with the lightning playing before him, and wielding a thunderbolt as a weapon.

This rebellion leads to a war in heaven and the conquest of the powers of evil, the gods in due course creating the universe in stages as in the Mosaic narrative, surveying each step of the work and pronouncing it good. The divine work culminates in the creation of man, who is made upright and free from evil, and endowed by the gods with the noble faculty of speech.

The Deity then delivers a long address to the newly-created being, instructing him in all his duties and privileges, and pointing out the glory of his state. But this condition of blessing does not last long before man, yielding to temptation, falls; and the Deity then pronounces upon him a terrible curse, invoking on his head all the evils which have since afflicted humanity. These last details are, as I have before stated, upon the fragment which I excavated during my first journey to Assyria, and the discovery of this single relic, in my opinion, increases many times over the value of *The Daily Telegraph* collection."

ATHLETICISM AND MASONRY.

THERE is nothing apparently in common between these pursuits, yet in the early part of last century a Lodge was established in London, whose very name is sufficiently suggestive of a connection between athletics and the Craft. This Lodge is still in existence, standing No. 45 on the list, and holding its meetings at the Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell. As the origin of an early Lodge cannot be otherwise than generally interesting to our readers we subjoin the following particulars, for which we are indebted to a well known source.

About the year 1730, the attention of that eminent Mason, Bro. Desaguliers, was attracted by the frequent

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reports of the great strength and muscular power of a man named Thomas Topham, who kept the Red Lion Public-house, nearly opposite the old Hospital of St. Luke, and was called, as a mark of his pre-eminence in Athletic feats, the STRONG MAN. He appears to have settled in this locality for its close proximity to the famous ring in Moorfields, where athletic exercises of all kinds, such as boxing, wrestling, sword-play, cudgelling, &c. were performed, under the superintendence of a well-known character of the day, who was familiarly called Old Vinegar. This latter appears to have been a very truculent-looking fellow,—broad-backed, big-fisted, and strong as a giant. Topham, however, experienced not the slightest difficulty in lowering his pride, throwing him in the ring as though he were a cork, to the infinite delight of a numerous band of spectators, many of whom had been obliged to succumb to the powerful acidity of Old Vinegar.

The first, and perhaps the most remarkable feat which Bro. Desaguliers saw Topham perform for evidencing his immense strength was the following:—A powerful cart-horse was harnessed and placed on one side of a low wall, which in those days separated the upper from the lower portion of the Moorfields, Topham being on the other. The latter then taking hold of the traces, planted his feet firmly against the wall, and bade the spectators flog the horse with all their might and main, in order, if possible, to make it move. Their efforts, however, proved unavailing. Two legs proved more powerful than Four legs, and Topham remained victor in the contest. He afterwards essayed a similar feat with two horses, and Bro. Desaguliers, who was present, is reported to have been convinced that, "if placed in a proper position, he (Topham) would have sustained the efforts of four horses without the slightest inconvenience."

Topham appears to have been a very worthy fellow. With all his strength, he was meek as a lamb, and appears to have been ruined and driven from his home by a termagant wife. It was just at this juncture that Bro. Desaguliers became his friend and patron, taking, as Professor of Experimental Philosophy, a great interest in his performances. Accordingly he placed him in another public house at the Hermitage, one bearing the sign of the "Ship." He made him also a Mason, and established a Lodge at his house as a means of increasing his business. This Lodge was very well conducted, Bro. Desaguliers being himself its head as W.M., and in the course of a short time rapidly increased both in numbers and respectability. The Cognizance was, and no doubt is still, the redoubtable Thomas Topham himself, matching his strength against that of a horse and his feet propped up by the fragment of a wall; the name being that of THE STRONG MAN LODGE. Topham latterly fell into bad habits and the business passed into other hands, but the Lodge went on prospering, and as we have already said, figures in the *Masonic Calendar* as No. 45 in the list of Lodges. Possibly some of the officers and brethren belonging to this Old Lodge may have the leisure and disposition to furnish us with any further particulars that may be interesting to our readers. If they are so minded, we shall have great pleasure in inserting their communications.

The 6th annual Grand Vocal and Instrumental Concert, in aid of the Metropolitan and City Police Orphanage, under the patronage of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, will be held, by permission of Bro. Col. Henderson, C.B., on the 23rd instant. The vocalists are Misses Edith Wynne, Matilda Scott and Emily Mott (daughter of Bro. Jas. Mott), Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. W. H. Cummings and Mr. Lewis Thomas. Miss Lily Mott, pianoforte; Mr. H. Reynolds, cornet; and the band of the A Division will play, under the direction of Mr. Allcock. On the 1st of April the annual ball, in aid of the same charity, will be held at the Cannon Street Hotel, under the patronage of the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, Bro. D. H. Stone, the Sheriffs and Under-Sheriffs, Major Bowman, Bro. Lieut. F. Kent, C.C., and a number of Stewards. Bro. T. Butler will act as M.C.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—Dangerous catarrhs, bronchitis, asthma and influenza are rife at this season of the year; hepatic and renal congestions frequently occur as the result of checked skin action, giving rise to serious symptoms, and preventing attention to business or pleasure. No time should be lost, on the first appearance of any indications of the invasion of these diseases, for the symptoms may be checked effectually by the use of these valuable remedies; the penetrating local effect of the Ointment acts surely on the affected parts, and restores them to a healthy condition, and the Pills, judiciously taken, in accordance with the lucid directions, relieve the congestive capillaries and materially lessen the chance of serious mischief supervening.

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

ON Wednesday evening, 3rd March, the Quarterly Communication of the United Grand Lodge of Freemasons of England was held in Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. The fact that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales would be elected Most Worshipful Grand Master had attracted the brethren from all parts, consequently a more numerous assembly has not been congregated in the Temple in which the meeting was held for several years.

Brother Hugh D. Sandeman, District Grand Master of Bengal, presided; supported by Lord Henry Thynne, M.P., as Senior Grand Warden, and T. Pattison as Junior Grand Warden. Brother the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, Provincial Grand Master for Staffordshire, acted as Deputy Grand Master, and on the dais we noticed the Earl of Limerick, Provincial Grand Master for Bristol, who acted as Past Grand Master; Sir Albert W. Woods, Garter; Colonel Burdett, Provincial Grand Master for Middlesex; Brother Samuel Tomkins, Grand Treasurer; Bro. S. Rawson, Pro. Grand District Master for China; Bro. Thomas Fenn, Bro. J. B. Monckton, P.G D. Pres. Board of General Purposes; Dr. Hogg, Captain Platt, Bro. J. Glashier, Bro. Joshua Nunn, the Revs. C. J. Martyn (who acted as Grand Chaplain), R. J. Simpson, Sir J. Warren Hayes P.G. Chaplain, A. B. Fraser, James Simpson D.L.C. Bros. J. Rucker P.G.D., Clabon P.G.D. President Board of Benevolence, J. Nunn P.G.S., Spiers P.G.S.B., J. Havers P.G.W., Ex Sheriff Hutton G.D., Fenn P.G.D., C., J. C. Parkinson D.G.M., Middlesex, Kuhe G.O., W. Ganz P.G.O., Fraser P.G.C., J. Savage P.G.D., Major Creaton P.G.D., Hyde Pullen P.G.S.B., J. Boyd P.G.P., J. Coutts P.G.P., J. Smith P.G.P., Ough P.G.P., T. Adams P.G.P., C. A. Cottebrune P.G.P., T. Cubitt G.P., Wright A.G.P., and Bros. March, R. Spencer, J. R. Stedwell, H. Norman, H. Dicketts, Marsh, J. Constable, G. Bolton, G. Demaid, De Solla, Carpenter, E. Gottheil, J. Ross, T. Bull, G. S. Statey, Palmer, Carter, H. Massey, Thompson, F. Binckes, W. Parsons, J. Mander, S. Rosenthal, Bennett, H. G. Buss, Pendlebury, and numerous other Past Grand Officers.

The Grand Secretary (Brother J. HERVEY) read a communication from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, acknowledging the receipt of the resolution of condolence passed in Grand Lodge on the 2nd of September last, on the decease of the Earl of Dalhousie, Past Grand Master Mason of Scotland.

On the motion of the Earl of SHREWSBURY, seconded by the Earl of LIMERICK, an address of condolence was unanimously passed to the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro-Grand Master, on the sad affliction which has befallen his lordship by the death of the Countess of Carnarvon.

Bro. S. G. GRADY then proposed his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales for Grand Master, and, in doing so, reminded his brethren of the distinguished services his Royal Highness had performed for Freemasonry, how he had presided at the annual festivals of each of the Masonic charitable institutions, being Master of two Lodges, and had initiated two of his brothers into the Order. He also pointed out that his Royal Highness had yet another claim on the loyalty of the Craft, for he had readily accepted the office of Grand Master when it became vacant by an unexpected cause; and if a further claim were wanted it was to be found in the fact that he was descended from an illustrious line of ancestors, many of whom were conspicuous by their attachment to Freemasonry, and particularly to the fact that the Duke of Sussex was Grand Master at the time of the Union of the Ancient and Modern Grand Lodges of England.

Bro. GREY, Deputy-Master of the Prince of Wales's Lodge, seconded the motion, which was then put to Grand Lodge and carried unanimously, amidst great cheering.

His Royal Highness was then proclaimed, by Sir Albert Woods, as duly elected Grand Master for the ensuing year.

Bro. JOHN HERVEY read the following letter, from the secretary of the Prince of Wales:—

"His Royal Highness has fixed the ceremony of his installation to take place at the Grand Festival on Wednesday, the 28th of April, at the Royal Albert Hall; and with a view to assist the executive in carrying out the arrangements of the day he proposes to authorise the appointment of a certain number of stewards in addition to the Grand Stewards of the year, and to cause a jewel to be struck, and to permit the brethren who may be named as stewards to wear the same."

This communication was received with loud applause.

Dr. Erasmus Wilson moved, and Dr. Ramsey seconded the resolution that Bro. Samuel Tomkins (of the firm of Willis, Percival and Co.) be re-elected Grand Treasurer. On the motion being put, it was carried with acclamation.

Bro. Tomkins thanked Grand Lodge for the honour they had conferred on him; this made the twenty-fourth year he had held the office. He contrasted the present position of the Order and its great prosperity with that which he witnessed when he first became Grand Treasurer. Under the presidency of the Prince of Wales he felt confident that the brethren might hope and believe that there was a great period of prosperity before them.

Grand Lodge then passed a resolution acknowledging the Grand

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Lodge of Quebec as an independent Grand Lodge; representatives to be interchanged.

A long discussion ensued on the report of the Lodge of Benevolence, wherein very large grants were made to distressed brethren and the widows of deceased brethren. Mr. John M. Clabon, the president of the Lodge of Benevolence, and Mr. Joshua Nunn, the Vice President, stated the circumstances under which the grants had been made, and warned the brethren against falling into the error of making the grants too large.

Other Masonic business was then proceeded with, and the brethren adjourned at a late hour.

CORRESPONDENCE.

All Letters must bear the name and address of the Writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.

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ASSISTANCE TO MASONIC CHARITIES.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Bro. Edward Clark P.M. 1194 and 1329, P.P.G. Sup. Wks. Middlesex, of 17 Talfourd Road, Peckham Road, undoubtedly appreciating the great amount of good effected by Bro. Constable's mode of assisting the Masonic Charities, has signified his approval thereof by pursuing a similar course. He seems, however, to have come to the conclusion that the same amount of money might be collected, with considerably less trouble and fatigue, by charging two-shillings-and-sixpence instead of one shilling, as does Bro. Constable. It is gratifying that Bro. Clark, whose high position in the Craft lends additional value to his approval of this method of obtaining subscriptions, is applying his influence and energies to its promotion. There are many who give willingly and unhesitatingly, provided they are asked to do so, but whose names, either from thoughtlessness or indolence and apathy are never seen in any list of subscribers. There are others whose position in life does not enable them to spare sufficient to constitute what is considered a respectable donation, but are nevertheless anxious to give what they can well afford. There is a large class of the latter, and for these, especially, subscription by ticket, with a chance of winning a Life Governorship must be in itself a great boon. We may therefore justly express a hope that others, whose position and influence give reasonable grounds for a prospect of success, will imitate the excellent example of Bros. Constable and Clark. The Masonic Charities require, and should have our constant care. However great the amount of benefit effected by the existing institutions, it is the undoubted duty of every Craftsman to work with all his heart and soul to endow them with greater power. For it should ever be borne in mind that the demands for help from the aged Mason, the widow, and the orphan, are always immeasurably in excess of the means to bestow it. The resources after all are very circumscribed, and therefore any one who applies himself to promote their extension deserves the hearty thanks of all true Masons.

Yours fraternally, E. GOTTHEIL.

MASONIC MINSTRELSY.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR,—If the author of the clever stanzas entitled "My Brother" is not laughing at us, I trust he will turn his poetical talent to account for the benefit of the Order generally. Masonic minstrelsy needs much improvement, and I think the time has come when such songs as those quoted in your last article, should be banished from our repertory. The author of "My Brother" clearly possesses a poetical turn, but his piece is better fitted for recitation than for a musical setting. Some one has remarked that the subject of a good song, must be either "Wine" or "Woman." I am inclined to think that there is much truth in this. A song should deal with one thought or idea only, and it should appeal to the emotions which are common to all men. Wine and Women are universally appreciated by all but a few sober fanatics who would taboo these heaven-sent solaces of poor humanity. I would suggest that our unknown author should try his hand upon either of these themes. He can give them a Masonic turn if he pleases, without destroying the unity which is one of the greatest charms of a song.

One word with reference to the prevailing love for comic verse. I believe the preference to be bad; a sign of frivolity and decadence. However, I can understand and appreciate. "My Brother" contains much humour, and hence I regard it as a valuable addition to our small stock of Masonic poetry, but mere farce, without either wit or humour, should be driven out of our Lodges.

We are a serious body, with grave ends in view (I do not intend a pun), and the verses which enliven our leisure hours should be at least tinged with "the pale cast of thought."

I am, dear Sir, yours very truly, P. W.

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REVIEWS.

All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, 67 Barbican, E.C.

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Shakespeare Commentaries. By Dr. G. G. Gervinus, Professor at Heidelberg. Translated, under the author's superintendence, by F. E. Bunnett. New Edition, revised by the Translator. London: Smith, Elder and Co., 15 Waterloo-place.

CONCLUDING NOTICE.

One of the most popular in the roll of Shakespearian characters is unquestionably that of "sweet Jack Falstaff, kind Jack Falstaff, true Jack Falstaff, valiant Jack Falstaff, and, therefore, more valiant, being as he is, old Jack Falstaff." But this very popularity furnishes the strongest reason for a careful study of the man and of the dramas in which he is so prominent a figure. If we see him on the stage, acted well, or even passing well only, we are intensely pleased. We laugh at his drolleries, we are in love with his joviality. We scarcely heed his knaveries, or even the cowardice he more than once displays. We see in him merely a perfectly drawn, and, as such, admirable character. We know he is a true portrait of a class of men who were common enough at the period to which he is assigned. But we rarely stop to analyse the character, or to deduce the lesson which the poet intended to impress upon his hearers through its medium. In our enthusiasm for this perfection of portraiture we forget that the evil in Falstaff outweighs the good in just the same ratio as "the intolerable deal of sack" was out of all proportion to "the half-pennyworth of bread." Thus in our very admiration for the poet as the creator, the *maker* of Falstaff, we do a serious injustice to his moral and æsthetic nature. It rarely occurs to us to inquire whether Shakespeare, with the vast powers he possessed, would have stooped to ennoble so worthless a personage? Whether, indeed, he has so ennobled him? The outer casing is so attractive that we pause not to learn what is hidden beneath. Yet Falstaff in the two parts of *Henry IV* and *The Merry Wives of Windsor* is one of the best practical illustrations of Shakespeare's value as a great moral teacher. For this reason, also, it is, perhaps with the one exception of Hamlet, one of the best tests of a critic's judgment and analytical power. Hence have we reserved this for the concluding portion of our remarks. If our author has rightly estimated this and the character of Hamlet, which are among the most subtle of the great poet's creations, we need hardly pause to inquire into the merits of his other analyses.

The earlier part of the commentary on the first part of Henry IV. is devoted to the characters of Hotspur and Prince Henry. Admirable as are the comments of Gervinus hereon, we do not propose to dwell upon them, for space and time are both wanting. Pass we then at once to Falstaff; "the personification of the inferior side of man, of his animal and sensual nature"; in whom "all the spiritual part of man—honour and morality, refinement and dignity—has been early spoiled and lost." To take the author's sketch of his character:—"The material part has smothered in him every passion for good or for evil; he was perhaps naturally good-natured, and only from trouble and bad company became ill-natured, but even this ill-nature is as short as his breath, and is never sufficiently lasting to become real malice. His form and his mere bulk condemn him to repose and love of pleasure; laziness, epicurean comfort, cynicism, and idleness, which are only a recreation for his prince, are for him the essence, nature, and business of life itself." Later on: "His wit, the only mental gift which he possesses, must itself serve to his subsistence; at any rate, in the Merry Wives of Windsor, he prepares it expressly with this business-like object to escape want. Want and necessity, it is said in Tarlton's 'Jests,' is the whetstone of wit, and it is even so with Falstaff. This may relate especially to his ingenuity in fraudulent tricks, but the merely intellectual side of his wit may also be referred to his physical heaviness. His mere appearance attracts attention to him, and provokes men to mock him; he affords a picture of the owl baunted by the birds. This position alone calls forth, in self defence, those passes of wit which, for the most part, do not spring from direct natural capacity. In all witty and satirical powers in men, the innate gift, generally speaking, lies in a negative realistic nature little adapted for action; the more essential element in this power is its training and cultivation, lying, as it does, entirely in a keen, well exercised sense of comparison, and consequently in the most versatile and manifold observation and practice. This habit became another nature; it must have been so in Falstaff, all the more early and completely, the earlier his mere appearance provoked the attacks of wit." Again, as to the nature of this wit we are told: "His whole comic power lies in his unintentional wit and in his dry humour; natural mother wit ever appears in this way; comic genius, like genius of every kind, moves in the undistinguishable line between consciousness and instinct. It is just this happy medium which Shakespeare assigned to his Falstaff; and this medium and his position as bantering and bantered, as a mark for wit just as much as a dealer in it himself, assigns to him the social place he always occupied." Then, as to his moral being, "the words *no conscience* and *no shame*," says the author, "express all that we require for acquaintance with him. At times indeed, he has attacks of remorse, and these make evident the man's better nature, even under such a material burden, is never quite lost." To what extent this lack of all shame prevails in him is, we are told, "most glaringly depicted, when he hacked his sword as an evidence of his heroic deeds, and by this business, and by his shameless swearing, makes even a Bardolph blush. The basis of this character is exhibited in his soliloquy concerning honour." And again: "It is this very core, or rather nullity of his nature, his lack of honour, which places him as a great and striking contrast to the other principal character of the play. As in Percy honour and manliness blend into one idea, according to the notions of the age, so, on

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the contrary, in Falstaff do lack of honour and cowardice. The chivalric age sounded the key-note of this character in its thrasonic boasting; and even to us Falstaff appears in all the breadth and height of his nature, when he utters his imprecations against a coward, and reveals at the same time his own cowardice and bragging insolence. His gifts are here displayed with the most varied brilliancy; his cowardice exposes him to derision, as before his size had done—his lies must extricate him; in this art he is short in memory but long in practice; he is inventive in his bragging, shameless in his inventions, undismayed in his shamelessness, ready for evasion, shuffling, misrepresentation and tricks." "And yet," asks the author, "how is it we do not abhor the cowardly Jack as such; that, on the contrary, we find ourselves even feeling undisturbed delight in him?" And he answers the question thus, "There are many complex causes which tend to moderate, and even entirely to bribe over our moral judgment upon this character. Readily and involuntarily we mingle pleasure in the delineation of the poet, with pleasure in the subject delineated. The liveliness of the picture, the abundance of the choicest wit, the unusually skilful touch in the choice of the ridiculous and the comic in the mere exterior of this phenomenon, and, finally, the blending of the ideal with the individual, which allows us to recognise in Falstaff now a typical character, and now an actual well-known personage; all this is done with such masterly power, that it is excusable if any transfer their admiration from the work of art to the subject of it. But even the subject itself has that within it which exercises a corrupting influence upon the estimate of its moral value. Shakespeare says of Parolles, in *All's Well that Ends Well*, that he is so consummate in baseness that we take pleasure in it; that 'he hath out-villained villainy so far that the rarity redeems him.' In this delight in anything complete in itself we look upon Falstaff." And yet again a point which influences our judgment is "the contrast between the great sensual inclinations and desires of this cynical epicurean, and his small capability for enjoyment; between his paralytic old age and his affectation of youth, between the easy existence after which his ponderous body longs, and to which this burden in itself never suffers him to attain. . . . . The picture of human frailty, weakness, and dependence upon outward things which Falstaff presents, softens our moral vigour."

In the Second Part of Henry IV. Falstaff shows less attractively. The honour of slaying Percy had been transferred to him by the Prince Henry, and creates for him, among all people, a reputation for heroism. "A store of good names, of which he stood in need, has been accumulated upon him without merit. . . . The worthy Chief Justice encourages Falstaff expressly to make use of the good state of his reputation, that it may be lasting. The poet and the truly careful friends of Falstaff have omitted nothing to keep him on the road to honour, upon which, undeservedly, chance and the sacrifice of the Prince, have placed him." But, as is pointed out, "all this makes no impression upon Falstaff's insensible nature . . Instead of being raised by the fame of Shrewsbury, he is only more shameless and vulgar." Still, though we see him fighting and brawling in the streets, rebuked openly by the Chief Justice, whom he threatens, and defrauding the State, once again, on the apprehension of Colville, an undeserved honour forces itself upon him. Lancaster wishes to extol this deed, as his brother had the deed of Shrewsbury. All in vain." He sinks lower and lower, plunders the Shallows, and when "he meets with his glaring and well-deserved fall, justice and order regain their rights." Rightly the author contrasts the silly conceits of Shallow with the bolder and fresher rodomontades of Falstaff, and shows how this contrast again excites our sympathy with the latter. Still finer is the contrast which is notable between Falstaff's ruin and the return from error of Prince Henry. In the *Merry Wives of Windsor* the descent of Falstaff is still more rapid. Here, as in Part II. of *Henry IV.*, the Prince and Falstaff are separated. The latter is "removed from the ennobling presence of that witty society, wholly abandoned to himself, and sinking to a greater degree than Henry rose; at last, even hardly conceivable as it may appear, utterly fallen in his own estimation." Then, in this play, he retains all his shamelessness, but his judgment forsakes him. "Twice he allows himself in the grossest manner to be cheated, baulked and beaten, without being in the least more heedful of a third trap laid for him." And then, "when all is at length unriddled to him, the man who never could attain to a knowledge of himself, is ashamed even to self-contempt. When he is thus degraded before himself, and in his own judgment, Shakespeare might have hoped to direct the judgment of his spectators with respect to this character, more in accordance with his own view." But this, we are told, would have been impossible. He had already sunk so low, that though all assail himself, he might not have thought worse of himself. But "on the side of his wit, an impression could still be made upon him. This was the gift by which he felt himself superior to blockheads, and equal with the clever. On this very point, which corrupted our own judgment, our judgment was to be rectified; and while the poet lowered him in our estimation, in this last recommendatory point he gave us the surest token that he wished to remove him entirely from our esteem. And thus it is with Falstaff in this play. All become thoroughly weary of him, and when he has lost his last attraction they cast him away. He had thought neither caution nor wit necessary to meet the burghers' honesty and ignorance, and he is bamboozled by both. He is obliged to acknowledge himself that 'wit may be made a Jack-a-lent, when 'tis upon ill-employment;' the crafty wit is made 'an ox and an ass,' the robber is fleeced. . . . . Thus degraded before himself, he seems so now not only to his companions, but to the reader and the spectator also."

Thus have we followed the career of Falstaff through the three plays in which he figures. By noting, as the author has done, this progress, we are able the better to judge of the character and the purpose of Shakespeare in depicting it. Falstaff in fact can only be justly estimated by being thus considered, and those with whom this class of study is a favourite will find these Commentaries of infinite value, as affording them a most perfect entertainment. We wish, indeed, we could have marked our summary still more conspicuously with the evidences of Gervinus' most careful treatment, but for the same reason that we have been compelled to omit all notice of his Commentaries on other plays, and notably on that of Hamlet, for the same reason have we been obliged to curtail his sketch of Falstaff.

In only remains to add a word of praise as to the chapter on Hamlet, a mastery of which, as we have previously remarked is, perhaps, the best evidence we could have of the merits of a Shakespearian commentator. The analysis in the volume before us is in the highest degree interesting, and many who read it will probably be amazed at its results. Nor should we fail to direct attention to the closing chapter, wherein the author, having criticised severally the works of the poet, contemplates "as a whole the position of the poet and his poetry." This, also, we are obliged to dismiss thus curtly, but our readers, who are not governed by such limits as we are, will, doubtless, find the needful leisure for its study. In fine, the volume is one which should find a place in every scholar's library, for few Shakespearian critics have done so much in the way of exposition as Gervinus, and few so worthily appreciate our great poet.

THE MAGAZINES OF THE MONTH.

We have read this month's number of *Blackwood* with great pleasure. The articles are few in number, but all of them are excellent specimens of our magazine literature. "The Abode of Snow," in which "Zanskar," an almost unknown region, is described, and "Alice Lorraine" are our favourites. In the latter serial the unfortunate heroine plans a very unheroic escape from all her troubles; but doubtless in April we shall have matters set somewhat straight. Mabel Lovejoy once more appears on the scene, while her lover, young Lorraine, is gradually being restored, chiefly by her careful nursing, to health. "The Speeches of Lord Lytton" is a readable sketch of the late Lord Lytton as a politician, based on his utterances in Parliament, a collection of which, edited by his son, the present Lord, has recently been published. The political article, which treats of "The Prospects of the Session," is marked by more than the usual moderation of tone. This, indeed, can hardly be otherwise when the conduct of parties in both Houses of Parliament is thus distinguished. There are, in fact, no burning or blazing questions to disturb our equanimity just now. *Tant mieux* say we.

In *Fraser* are still continued the very able account of "The Early Kings of Norway," and a Lady's Sketches of "German Home Life." In the latter some account is given of German food, and the various methods of preparing it—a subject which, as it is extremely well-handled, we cordially commend to the notice of our readers. Major Noel contributes some interesting "Recollections of the Stage." "The Place of Sterndale Bennett in Music" is discussed, with a just appreciation of Bennett's merits as a composer, and with, we hope, a just expectation of his future rank among musicians. In the article on "The Dangers of the Sea" the Captain of an ocean steamer offers several practical suggestions, especially against that most appalling of all dangers to the ocean-traveller—fire. In another article are discussed "Some political aspects of Sir Samuel Baker's Expedition up the Nile," to which those to whom the subject is of interest will do well to lend their attention. The rest of the number is equally good.

Certainly the strong point in *Tinsley's* is its serial fiction. It is perhaps a somewhat difficult task to follow the thread of four concurrent stories; but a difficulty of this kind we always face more readily when the material of the stories is excellent. "With Harp and Crown," and Mr. Farjeon's "Love's Victory" are highly to be commended, and in the present number are fully as attractive as ever. Dr. C. Maurice Davies discusses pleasantly enough, in his "Social Status Quo," the most noteworthy events of the past month, and H. Schütz Wilson gives a capital sketch of "A Protruding Tooth, between Sans and Samplon." There are also some very pretty poems, for one of which, "A Troubadour's Prayer," our social friend Dr. Davies is responsible, so far at least as its present English form is concerned.

Belgravia is pretty impartial in the distribution of its attentions, being fiction and plain matter of fact, "Hostages to Fortune," and "A Study in Gray," representing the former, while among the latter we have remarked several contributions that are eminently readable. Such for instance, as those on "The Postal Telegraph, the Press, and Race Meetings," "Within sound of Bow Bells," and Mr. F. Talbot's article on "The Trades and Crafts of Shakespere," Mr. Compton Reade is very successful in his opening sketch of "Oxford Ruffles," and there is something to be gleaned from "Sport and Adventure in Hudson's Bay Country," in the way of information as well as entertainment. We note in this number a slight tendency towards the discussion of matters relating to or connected with sport. We have named two papers answering this description already—a third is "Cheating the Nor' easter," the illustrations are capitally drawn.

In *Cornhill* the "Two Rivals" still continue to be the leading features, this forms, in fact, the bulk of the contents. But there are other items which deserve not to be overlooked, and among these may be mentioned the articles on "Topham Beauclerk," or "The Sun's Surroundings and the Coming Eclipse," "The Siege of Florence," and "On the Disposal of the Dead." The last of these has been, as our readers are aware, a prominent subject for discussion for some time past, and the present contribution to our knowledge of former practices will be found in the highest degree interesting.

The *Westminster Papers*, which justly holds a foremost rank among periodicals relating to Chess, Whist, and such like games, contains,

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besides its extremely varied and interesting array of problems and hands for solution, some severe, but justly pointed comments on a recent Card scandal, familiar to all frequenters of Clubs.

Baily has an excellent programme this month, "Racers and Chasers," by Amphion, "Coursing—the Waterloo Cup," by Sirius, and "Country Quarters—The East Essex," go some way towards making a good number. To these may be added a further chapter of "Frank Raleigh of Watercombe," and a lively array of domestic and sporting criticism and jokes in "Our Van." The most seasonable contribution bears the title of "The Roaring Game," which is neither more nor less than a very spirited sketch of a game played mostly north of the Tweed, and known familiarly as Curling.

London Society is deservedly a popular magazine. The fiction is generally good, while the occasional papers are invariably worth reading. "The Recollections of an old Habitué," "The Comedié Française," "Ghent and the Béguinage," and "Gossip Honeyman on Cads," are cases in point as regards the latter, while "The West-end Notes," if somewhat unequal in the matter of taste, are smartly written throughout. The illustrations are worth noticing, especially George Cruikshank junior's "West-end and East-end."

Cassell's Family Magazine inclines to what Sir A. Helps would describe as common-sensible articles, such for instance as "How shall I furnish my Dining-room?" "Cold Leg of Mutton," "Chit-Chat on Dress," and "How I managed my Children." All these, as may be judged from their titles, treat of matters of domestic interest, and are handled skilfully, and, as we have hinted, common-sensibly. But these are far from being the only subjects worth noting in the present number. The further chapters of the serial stories, "The Manchester Man," and "Pretty Miss Bellew" are capitally written, the description of the school fights in the former being life-like, and recalling very vividly some of our early experiences of school life. The advice in "Garden and Field in March" seems sound and practical, though Londoners are hardly the best judges of what is good advice in such matters. Among the other contents, Mr. David Ker's article, entitled "Swept from the Earth," and "Non-Collegiate Students at Cambridge," seem most worthy of attention.

Among the most noticeable features in the *Gentleman's* are a sketch of "The Parliamentary Leaders of Germany," "Charles Kingsley in the Saddle," Mr. Francillon's "Physiology of Authorship," "Is Verse a Trammel?" "The Punishment of Flogging," by J. Roland Phillips. As to the last of these, we are decidedly at issue with the writer, who is against the application of the lash to wife-beaters and other such like ruffians. We know there is considerable diversity of opinion on this subject, but we have a certain faith in the maxim—*Similia Similibus Curentur*—brutes may be cured by brutal punishment.

There are several good tales in *Temple Bar*, to only one of which we are inclined to take exception, that is the "Greville Memoirs, (No. 2)." We fully sympathise with the writer of the *Quarterly* critique. We strongly object to the publication of such memoirs, all the more strongly, indeed, that they are read with such avidity. This does not palliate, but adds to the sin of publication. "Romance in a Paris Prison" is a neatly written tale; the material is slight, but well put together, and the two or three important personages are very admirably drawn. "The Dean's Watch," and "Beatrice's Dream" are pleasant reading for an odd half-hour, and with most of the remarks on "Fashion" we feel disposed to agree.

Chambers's Journal contains, among other matter, some serviceable hints "About the Dinner Table," a "History of Advertising," and sundry contributions, by W. Chambers, in two of which are discussed the recent "Assyrian Discoveries" by Mr. Smith, and "The Dangerous Classes." Our readers will also be pleased with an article on the "Droll Selection of Names," "The Lifeboat and its Work," and "A Night in the Backwoods."

The description of certain English Cathedrals—Winchester and Bristol—are among the chief attractions in *All the Year Round*. There is also, too, a well told story in "Marigold,—a Romance in the Old Garden," and "John Bull in the China Shop," contains an account of Sundry rare specimens of old Porcelain, which will greatly interest the collectors of old China.

The *Covent Garden Magazine*, the first number of which appeared last month, does great credit to its conductor, Mr. W. H. C. Nation. The contents are of the usual character to be found in our periodical publications. We have noted in particular, "The Caverns of the Ardennes," "A Reminiscence of Heidelberg" and the "Nightside of Caravan Life." Mr. G. M. Fenn's story, "Both Sides of the Mirror," is not unprofitable reading. The weakest feature in this magazine is the poetry, of which there are two or three specimens, but none of them possess merit. "The Wine and Walnuts" would be more acceptable, if there were more of them. As it is, the supply of chit-chat is far too scanty.

The most attractive papers in the *Contemporary* are Lady Verney's "Mysteries, Moralities, and the Drama," Julian Hawthorn's "Saxon Studies," the subject being "Stone and Plaster" and the last two by Mr. Greg and Professor Huxley respectively. The former is strong in his comments on the present "Life at High Pressure," and few, we think, will venture to deny the justice and force of most, if not all, of his remarks on this subject. Professor Huxley describes, for our edification, "Some of the Results of the Expedition of H.M. Steamer 'Challenger.'" The treatment is worthy alike the valuable results attained and the reputation of the writer. It is not often we have a number of the *Contemporary* which is of such general interest as is the present. We mostly find one class of subjects, of which, indeed, there are specimens in the instance before us, such, for example, as Mr. Matthew Arnold's "Review of Objections to Literature and 'Dogma,'" and "Necessary Truth," in answer to a previous paper by Mr. Fitzjames Stephen. But this kind of theme is in the minority, this month at all events.

Good Things, Good Words, The Leisure Hour and *Sunday at Home* contain their usual complement of healthy literature for their several classes of readers, and all of them are fairly illustrated. Mrs. Broderip's conduct of "Puzzledom" in the first mentioned of them bids fair to rival in success that of her brother, the late Tom Hood.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY NEWS.

FRIDAY.

There have been comparatively few changes in the dealings taking place this week. Business presents an unusually quiet appearance for the time being, and it is probable that the inclement weather of the past few days has something to do with the want of animation now prevailing. At the same time markets are not much borne down, as some few investments are reported, while it is also to be noted that the Bank rate remains unchanged at 3½ per cent. In the early part of the week, subscriptions were invited by the Messrs. Rothschilds to a New Zealand loan for £4,000,000 sterling, at 4½ per cent., the issue price being fixed at 94½. The number of applications, we understand, far exceeded the amount to be allotted, and, in consequence, the lists had to be closed sooner than was expected. We hesitate to say how this success has been brought about, but at all events it shows how ready the public are to enter into new undertakings of this kind, without looking at the terms upon which they part with their money. Having previously referred to some of the more important features to be kept in view by capitalists, in selecting some of the best known channels of investments, we now proceed to offer one or two suggestions in connection with Foreign Railway Shares and Bonds. The shares quoted in the Stock Exchange official list, under the head of Foreign Railways, are of various characters, regarded as investments. In the first place, the situation of the railway—that is to say, the part of the world in which the line runs—has an important bearing upon the character of its shares as an investment. Secondly, it makes some difference whether the company is an English or a foreign one. And lastly, the financial condition of the various companies, as regards the payment of dividends, materially influences, as a matter of course, the estimation of their shares. A complete mastery of the particulars on these points is, therefore, the first step to be taken by a person intending to invest in the shares of a Foreign Railway Company. In respect to the financial condition of a company, the examination cannot be too close, or extend too far into its past history. The difference between an English and a Foreign company, is that the former is constructed according to English law, is managed by an English board of directors, and is generally conducted in such a manner that English Shareholders can readily obtain information respecting their property, and, to a certain extent, have a voice in its management, whilst in a foreign concern the reverse is the case on all these points. Many of the railways, the shares of which are quoted here, are situated in South America, and these undertakings are of English origin, and under the control of English directors. Most of the European lines are foreign companies and under foreign managements. One difference of detail as regards the form of security, according to whether a company is English or foreign, is that, in the former case, the shares are registered in the holders' names and transferable by deed, whereas in the latter they are generally shares to bearer. Many foreign railway shares possess the guarantee for a certain rate per cent. of the Government of the country in which they are situated. This guarantee is, however, in numerous instances, of a peculiar nature, and by no means the same as a guarantee of a *certain* rate of dividend on the shares. It is particularly necessary that investors should make themselves acquainted with the exact nature of the guarantee, when one exists; inquiry should be made whether the guarantee has been fulfilled, and the dividends actually paid should be compared with the amount of the guarantee. If there be any discrepancy, an explanation will exhibit clearly the nature of the guarantee. As a class, foreign railway obligations offer, as suggested the other day in the *Money Market Review*, a good rate of interest, 6 per cent. being obtainable from some of long standing with very fair security. Their merits are not appreciated as highly as they deserve to be by investors generally.

The English funds retain their strength at 93 to 93¼ for money and 93¼ to 93½ for the account. The foreign department has been more than usually dull, and there has been a disposition to effect sales to secure profits, while the heavy withdrawal of gold from the Bank has also reacted on the market generally.

Notwithstanding the unfavourable state of the weather, the home railway market is better supported than any other. The traffic returns maintain a good standard, and, as money is abundant, the tendency is decidedly towards firmness. Caledonian and Great Western have

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again been purchased, the latest quotation showing an advance in both stocks.

Colonial and Foreign railways engage but very little fresh business.

In the American Telegraph and miscellaneous markets, there are no special features. Anglo-American cable shares have been dealt in at a decline, but Imperial Ottoman Bank and Hudson's Bay are quoted fractionally higher.

The directors of Milner's Safe Company have just decided on the payment of an *ad interim* dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, on the amount of capital paid up to the 31st December last.

The London and North Western Railway Company announces that sleeping saloons are now attached to the Irish mail train between London and Holyhead.

A general court of the proprietors of the Bank of England will be held on the 11th instant to declare a dividend. A meeting is also called for the 6th of April, for the election of a governor and deputy-governor for the year ensuing, and on the following day two directors will be elected.

It is announced that an International Horticultural Exhibition will be held at Cologne, between the 25th of August and the 26th September next, under the patronage of the Imperial family.

At the half-yearly meeting of the London Tramway's Company this week the directors' report was adopted, and a dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum was declared. Had it not been for certain exceptional changes, the profits would have been sufficient to pay a dividend at the rate of 7½ per cent. per annum. The number of passengers carried during the half-year was 6,728,242, and the miles run were 996,336.

From the recently issued report of the Inland Revenue Commissioners it appears that out of 60 samples of beer examined 52 were found genuine and 8 adulterated, in these last sugar, liquorice, flour and common salt had been added.

An Extradition Treaty containing the usual provisions, has just been concluded with the Swiss Confederation, and has been presented to both Houses of Parliament.

The following statement shows the receipts for traffic on the undermentioned railways for the past week, as compared with the corresponding week in 1874:—

Railway.	Miles open. 1875	Receipts. 1875 £	1874 £
Caledonian	737	——	——
Glasgow and South Western	315½	15,720	15,136
Great Eastern	763	42,215	42,181
Great Northern	517	49,247	49,168
Great Western	1,525	89,900	95,401
Lancashire and Yorkshire	430	60,370	60,032
London and Brighton	376	21,428	21,435
London, Chatham and Dover	153½	13,845	13,049
London and North Western	1,582½	157,226	154,380
London and South Western	—	26,649	27,923
London, Tilbury and Southend	45	1,357	1,331
Manchester and Sheffield	259½	29,706	28,055
Midland	944½	110,052	103,375
Metropolitan	8	8,777	8,292
" " District	8	5,081	4,210
" " St. John's Wood	1½	459	417
North British	839	37,298	35,926
North Eastern	1,379	117,309	116,750
North London	13	6,611	6,552
North Staffordshire Railway	190	9,867	9,997
" " Canal	118	1,663	1,779
South Eastern	350	24,766	26,132

PLAYHOUSE PRICES—The cost of admission to the theatres in the days of Elizabeth was very moderate. "Let me never live to look so high as the two-penny room again," says Ben Jonson, in his prologue to *Every Man out of his Humour*, acted for the first time at the Globe, on Bankside, in 1599. The price of the "best rooms," or boxes, was a *shilling*; of the lower places *two-pence*; and in some places only a *penny*. The *two-penny* room above-mentioned was the gallery. Thus Decker:—"Pay your *two-pence* to a player, and you may sit in the gallery."—*Belman's Night Walk*. And Middleton, "One of them is a nip; I took him once into the *two-penny gallery* at the Fortune." The place, however, seems to have been very discreditable, for it is commonly described as the resort of pickpockets and prostitutes. In *Every Man out of his Humour*, there is also mention of "the *lords room* over the stage." The Lords rooms answered to the present stage boxes. The price of admission to them appears to have been originally a shilling. Thus Decker, in his *Gul's Horn-book*, 1609:—"At a new play you take up the *twelve penny-room*, next the stage, because the *Lords* and you may seem to be hail fellow well met."

DE LA RUE'S INTERNATIONAL PLAYING CARDS.—Portraits of the Royalty of Europe. Post free, 2s 9d. W. W. Morgan, 67 Barbican, London, E.C.

INNOVATIONS.

NOTHING is more offensive to the true Mason than any innovations on the ancient usages and customs of the Order. It is in consequence of this conservative principle that Masonry, notwithstanding many attempts have been made to alter, or, as it was supposed, to amend it, still remains unchanged now, as it has always been.

The middle of the eighteenth century was the most prominent era of those attempted innovations.

After the downfall of the House of Stuart, and the defeat of the Pretender's hopes in 1715, his adherents vainly endeavoured to enlist Freemasonry as a powerful adjunct to his cause. For this purpose it was declared by those who had enlisted in this design, that the great legend of Masonry alluded to the violent death of Charles I., and Cromwell and his companions in rebellion were execrated as the arch traitors whom the Lodges were to condemn. To carry out these views, new degrees were now for the first time manufactured, under the titles of *Irish Master*, *Perfect Irish Master*, *Puissant Irish Master*, and others of similar appellation. The Chevalier Ramsay, so well known in Masonic history, soon after made his appearance in the political world, and having attached himself to the house of Stuart, he endeavoured more effectually to carry out these views, by reducing the whole system to perfect order, and giving to it the appearance of plausibility. For this purpose he invented a new theory on the subject of the origin of Freemasonry.

He declared that it was instituted in the Holy Land at the time of the Crusades, where the Knights Templars had associated themselves together for the purpose of rebuilding those churches and other sacred edifices which had been destroyed by the Saracens. These latter, however, having discovered this holy design, and being determined to thwart it, had employed emissaries who, secretly mingling with the Christian workmen, materially impeded and often entirely paralyzed their labours. The Christians, as a security against this species of treason, then found it necessary to invent signs and other modes of recognition, by which intruders might be detected.

When compelled, by the failure of the Crusaders, to leave the Holy Land, these pious as well as warlike Knights were invited by a King of England to retire to his dominions, where they devoted themselves to the cultivation of architecture and the fine arts.

Ramsay pretended that the degrees originally established by the Templars were those of Scotch Master, Novice and Knight of the Temple; and he even had the audacity to propose, in 1728, to the Grand Lodge of England, to substitute them for the three primitive degrees of symbolical Masonry, a proposition which met with no more success that it deserved.

In Paris, however, he was more fortunate; for there his degrees were adopted, not, indeed as a substitute for, but as an addition to Ancient Craft Masonry. These degrees became popular on the Continent, and in a short time gave birth to innumerable others, which attempted to compensate for their want of consistency with the history, the traditions and the principles of the ancient institution, by splendour of external decorations and gorgeousness of ceremonies. Happily, however, the existence of these innovations has been but ephemeral. They are no longer worked as degrees, but remain only in the library of the Masonic student as subjects of curious inquiry. The *hautes grades* of the French, and the Philosophic degrees of the ancient and accepted Scotch rite, are not innovations on, but illustrations of pure symbolic Masonry, and as such will be found to be the depositories of many interesting traditions and instructive speculations, which are eminently useful in shedding light upon the character and objects of the institution.—*Mackey*.

On Thursday evening, at the rooms of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to animals, Jermyn-street, Piccadilly, the third annual distribution of prizes for "Essays on Kindness to Animals" took place, the recipients being certain of the children of the Hanover-square Church District Sunday School. Mrs. Ellicott (wife of the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol) distributed the prizes. Mr. Colam (secretary to the society), took the chair, and explained that the above school was the only Sunday school in the metropolis which had treated of the duty of kindness to animals. The prizes were given by the teachers of the school, and the ladies' committee of the society had granted the use of the room for the purpose of the prize distribution. The successful competitors were, in the first class, John Mayo, Frederick Gutteridge and Emily Dow. In the second Jessie Fennimore, Fanny Atherton, Edward Allaway and Alfred Long; and in the third, Ada Elliott and Herbert Mansell. Some of the essays were read by their juvenile authors, and were simple but earnest little compositions, all breathing the spirit of kindness to dumb animals. Mrs. Ellicott, in distributing the prizes, which consisted principally of books of natural history, accompanied the presentations with a kindly word of encouragement to the recipients.

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THE THEATRES, &c.

DRURY LANE.—REBECCA and ALADDIN.

HAYMARKET.—A FAIR ENCOUNTER, HOME and THE SERIOUS FAMILY.

ADELPHI.—This evening, at 7.0, THE LANCASHIRE LASS. At 9.0, LOST IN LONDON.

PRINCESS'S.—On Thursday, 11th March, ROUND THE WORLD IN EIGHTY DAYS.

LYCEUM.—At 6.50, FISH OUT OF WATER. At 7.45, HAMLET.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.0, TWENTY MINUTES WITH A TIGER. AT 7.30, THE TWO ORPHANS.

STRAND.—At 7.0, INTRIGUE. At 7.30, OLD SAILORS. At 9.15, LOO AND THE PARTY WHO TOOK MISS.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 7.45, SWEETHEARTS and SOCIETY.

GAIETY.—FAST COACH and MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM.

GLOBE.—LADY AUDLEY'S SECRET and BLUE BEARD.

ROYALTY.—At 8.0, CRYPTOCONCHOIDSYPHONOTOMATA and LA PERICHOLE.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.0, A WHIRLIGIG. At 7.45, OUR BOYS. At 10, ROMULUS AND REMUS.

CHARING CROSS.—At 7.30, MR. JOFFIN'S LATCH KEY. At 8.15, THE NEW MAGDALEN.

OPERA COMIQUE.—This evening, at 7.30, OPERETTA. At 8, AS YOU LIKE IT.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, THE TWO BONNYCASTLES. At 8.0, WHITTINGTON.

CRITERION.—LES PRES SAINT GERVAIS, &c.

AMPHITHEATRE, HOLBORN.—This evening, OTHELLO.

SURREY.—THE TWO POLTS and ARRAH-NA-POGUE.

PHILHARMONIC.—MARITANA or BOHEMIAN GIRL, &c.

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CRYSTAL PALACE.—This Day, CONCERT, BILLIARD MATCH, &c. On Tuesday, ROMEO AND JULIET, every Tuesday and Thursday, till 18th March, STANDARD ENGLISH PLAYS. Open daily, AQUARIUM, PICTURE GALLERY, &c.

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EGYPTIAN (LARGE) HALL.—Dr. LYNN, at 3.0 and 8.0.

EGYPTIAN HALL.—MASKELYNE AND COOKE, at 3.0 and 8.0.

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FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE

67 BARBICAN, E.C.

REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

THE most important matter, at all events in the Masonic world, since the appearance of our last issue, is the election of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales to be Grand Master for the ensuing year, and the announcement that his installation is fixed to take place at the Royal Albert Hall, on the 28th prox. As we refer elsewhere to this subject, we need only here congratulate our readers on the election, and echo, as we do most cordially, the wish expressed by Treasurer Tomkins, that Masonry may become more and more flourishing under the auspices of the new G.M.

The progress of the Session has thus far been marked by nothing of any special importance, as regards party politics. In the House of Lords, on Friday of last week, the second reading of the Patents for Inventions Bill was moved and carried, after some discussion, in the course of which Earl Granville suggested reference of the Bill to a select committee. As the Lord Chancellor pointed out that every kind of evidence that could by any possibility be required had already been obtained, the suggestion was needless, and was of course, withdrawn. On Monday their Lordships sat for a short time only; but on Tuesday, one of the most important measures of the year passed through Committee, the Transfer of Land and Titles Bill, the question, whether the registration of titles should be compulsory or not, being reserved till the report. On Thursday, in the course of a very brief sitting, the Supreme Court of Judicature Act (1873) Amendment Bill passed through Committee.

In the House of Commons, Sir G. Jenkinson, on Friday last, drew the attention of the House to the question of the Abolition of Turnpike Trusts. In the debate that followed, there was a somewhat lively passage of arms between Mr. Bright and the Premier, the former taunting the Government with pursuing a different policy in office from what they had sanctioned in Opposition; the latter retorting promptly. Then came on Mr. Martin's motion for the production of certain papers in relation to the conviction of John Mitchell, but the motion was withdrawn, and shortly afterwards the house adjourned. On Monday it was announced by Mr. Disraeli, that Her Majesty had been pleased to appoint Captain Gossett, the present Under Serjeant to the office of Serjeant, rendered vacant by the retirement of Lord Charles Russell. This announcement was received with loud and general applause from all parts of the House. Then Sir W. H. Beach moved for leave to bring in a Bill on the subject of the Peace Preservation Ireland Acts. Several Irish members spoke in opposition to the measure, but leave was given, and the Bill afterwards read a first time, the second reading being fixed fro Monday next. Tuesday was occupied in the discussion of Education in Rural Districts. Mr. Fawcett brought forward a motion thereanent; Mr. Pell moved an amendment to Mr. Fawcett's proposals, and the Government, represented by Mr. Cross and Lord Sandon, objected to both. In the result, Messrs. Fawcett and Pell were severally defeated. Mr. Egerton then moved to postpone further legislation on the subject for the present, but a motion for adjournment was at length acceded to by the Government, and the House rose. On Wednesday, Mr. Cowper Temple sought to induce the House to pass the second reading of the Universities (Scotland) (Degrees of Women) Bill, but unsuccessfully, the Bill being thrown out by a majority of 48. On Thursday, the early part of the proceedings was occupied with the discussion of a question of privilege brought under the notice of the House by one of, if not, its latest member, Dr. Kenealy, the elect of Stoke-on-Trent. A long and somewhat lengthy debate followed, in the course of which it was objected that the immediate case under notice was not really a question of the kind at all, that the remarks were made when Dr. Kenealy was not a member, nor were they directed against him in his capacity of member.

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The subject of Dr. Kenealy's complaint appears to have been some remarks of Mr. E. Ashley, member for Poole, for which, in the end, the latter expressed his regret at having made. After which the House, on the motion of Mr. Disraeli, who echoed the objection above referred to, passed to the Orders of the day. On the motion, that it go into Committee on the Regimental Exchanges Bill, Mr. Goschen moved an amendment, which, however, was resisted by the Government, and defeated. A motion for adjournment was afterwards made, and, on being renewed, was acceded to by Mr. Disraeli.

Three elections are pending—for Norwich, for St. Ives, and Tipperary. Severe contests are anticipated at the first mentioned places, especially at Norwich, where Mr. Tillett, a former representative, is one of the candidates. Mr. Praed, who was unseated, is again a candidate for St. Ives, while for Tipperary, there will be not only a contest, but doubtless, if Mitchell be returned, a petition by his rival, Mr. Stephen Moore, who has already served the Sheriff with a protest against his allowing the candidature of Mitchell, and claiming the seat under the circumstances described in such protest.

Shoe Lane must be rather an unpleasant neighbourhood to pass through at certain times of the day. Hard by are two large printing establishments, one that of Messrs. Spottiswoode, the other Messrs. Kronheim's, and each, it seems, has in its employment about 200 boys. Between the youngsters in these two houses a feud appears to have sprung up, and during mealtimes conflicts are engaged in, some 40 or 50, armed with sticks, stones, and other formidable weapons, taking part on each side. This practice is attended with no little danger, not only to the combatants, but to passers-by, and at length Police Constable 252 captured two of the number, and brought them before Alderman Cotton. No fight had actually taken place, but the prisoners were caught lying in wait, with others, for the Spottiswoode boys, one armed with a sword bayonet, the other with a stick. The youngsters were dismissed with a caution as to their future conduct, the Alderman stating his intention, if any more were brought before him for fighting, of sending them to prison. We hope the threat will be effectual in putting down this nuisance.

On Saturday last Sir Charles Lyell was buried in Westminster Abbey. Among the pall-bearers were Professor Huxley, Mr. Justice Grove, the Duke of Argyll, and Dr. Hooker, and among those present were Lord Airlie, Dr. L. Playfair, Right Hon. T. E. Headlam, Dr. Carpenter (Registrar of the University of London), Mr. Cameron, of Lochiel (representing the Queen), the Hon. C. L. Wood (on behalf of the Prince of Wales), &c., &c. We regret that any unseemly contention should have arisen just prior to the funeral. The Coroner for Middlesex, Dr. Hardwick, insisted on holding an inquest on the body, and for this purpose the coffin had to be re-opened. Expostulations and certificates were useless to satisfy this official, whose conduct appears to have been in the highest degree indecent. Questions were put on the subject in the House of Commons, to the Home Secretary, who very properly expressed his opinion that "the holding of the inquest, under the circumstances, was a great outrage against decency and common sense." Mr. Cross further stated that the Home Secretary had no jurisdiction over Coroners, but that the Lord Chancellor had; the circumstances had therefore been referred to his lordship, who, we trust, will indicate, even more strongly still, his opinion of this "great outrage against decency and common sense."

On Saturday the annual meeting of the members of the Newspaper Press Fund was held at the offices, No. 55 Strand, under the presidency of Mr. C. L. Gruneisen. The report for the past year represented the condition of the Fund as highly and increasingly prosperous. The number of members was 320, of whom 244 reside in London, and 94 in the provinces. The grants during the year amounted to £509 12s, the number of recipients being 39. The funded property had been further increased by the purchase of £700 India 4 per cent. stock, the aggregate of stock and securities being thus raised to £9,000. The income of the coming year was estimated at somewhat over £728, and there was an available cash balance on 31st December last of over £584. Votes of thanks to Lord Houghton for his valuable services, and to the Chairman for presiding on the occasion, were carried *nem con.* It was further announced that the anniversary festival will be held on the 5th June next, when Dean Stanley will preside.

The second Levee of the season was held on Monday afternoon, at St. James's Palace, by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, on behalf of Her Majesty. The Dukes of Edinburgh and Cambridge, Prince Christian, Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, and the Duke of Teck were present. The diplomatic and general circles were numerously attended, and presentations to the number of about 150 were made to His Royal Highness on behalf of the Queen, having been previously submitted for Her Majesty's approval.

The Cambridge and Oxford Crews are in the full swing of training for the great event of the year. Both are being coached by old 'Varsity oarsmen, Messrs. Darbishire and Willan acting as mentors to the Oxonians, Mr. Goldie doing ditto at Cambridge. Changes seem still to be the order of the day in the latter's crew, and as only a fortnight remains ere the race must be pulled off, the prospect does not seem very encouraging for its winning. At Cambridge also, the University Athletic Club have been holding their annual meeting preparatory to the Inter-University meeting at Lillie Bridge on the 19th inst. The result is the election of representatives for the several events at the latter. The weight was "put" a distance of 36 ft. 8½ in., while Hales, of Trinity, threw the hammer a distance of 116¼ ft. While on this subject we may state, for the information of our readers, that the Champion Amateur Athletic meeting will be held on Monday, the 22nd, the day following, as the Inter-University Athletic meeting is held the day preceding the boat race.

The weather we have had lately has been cold enough. We are enjoying, indeed, just now, about our third instalment of winter. But the American correspondent of the *Standard*, writing under date of the 17th ult., speaks of unprecedented cold having prevailed in the State of New York and in New England. In evidence, he mentions that several persons have crossed and re-crossed the ice in the Hudson on the same day. Such a feat of foolhardiness has not been known since 1835. As to the extent of the cold, he reports that in several localities in the Northern portion of the State, in the mountains, the thermometer has fallen to 41 degrees below zero, and New England accounts report even a lower temperature than this. At Concord, New Hampshire, the Mercury congealed a few days before, and at several places in the west spirits froze when exposed to the open air. However, "it is an ill wind that blows nobody any good." The Americans are consoling themselves for this excessive coldness, and such discomforts as the bursting of water-pipes and other usual accidents induce, with the reflection that the ice-crop for the approaching summer will prove a superabundant one. In 1873, one million and a half tons of ice were consumed. This year there are already stored over two and a half millions of tons. *Per contra*, we hear, of course, of increased suffering among the poor and destitute.

A whole family poisoned is a terrible catastrophe, and may well be said to have caused the utmost consternation throughout the village—Elstead in Surrey—in which it occurred. The landlord of the Woolpack Inn, by name Henry Chandler, his wife, and their four children, appear to have eaten of a pudding in which arsenic had been accidentally mixed. The man and woman are already dead, and the children are in such a helpless condition that more deaths are expected. The man appears to have mixed the arsenic with some flour and put it on a plate for the purpose of poisoning rats. The daughter-in-law, thinking it was all right, used it in making a suet pudding, of which she, happily for herself, partook not. Nor is this the only calamity there is to record. Advices from Melbourne, of the 3rd instant, report the wreck of the Steamer Gothenburg on Flinder's Island, Port Darwin. She had on board 85 passengers, 35 crew, and 3,000 ounces of gold. Only four men are known to have been saved, while three boats full of persons are adrift, and the greatest fears are entertained for their safety.

The even quietness of Oxfordshire circles has been somewhat rudely disturbed of late. Not long since, it was rumoured that a middle-aged farmer had eloped with an heiress, a young lady considerably his junior in the matter of age, in fact not yet of age. The rumour proved to be quite true, and in the end H. Timms, aged 56, was placed on his trial at the Oxford Assizes on Tuesday for feloniously and fraudulently, and from motives of lucre, detaining Annie Sophia Timms, formerly Annie Sophia Turner, Spinster, she being under the age of 21 years, to wit, of the age of 15 years, against the will of her father. Mr. Jelf led for the

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prosecution, Mr. Staveley Hill for the prisoner, who pleaded not guilty. The trial resulted in a verdict of Not Guilty, on hearing which the applause of the audience was very enthusiastic. Mr. Timms and his young wife on issuing from the court were most cordially greeted, a manifestation at which we cannot say we are surprised after the very strong feelings evinced by the young lady's relatives, who would have done a very graceful act had they abstained from such a prosecution.

At the meeting on Thursday evening of the London Institution, Finsbury Circus, Mr. Clements Markham, the secretary of the Royal Geographical Society, delivered a very interesting address, the subject being the forthcoming Arctic Expedition. There was a numerous audience assembled, among them being Admiral Sherard Osborn, Commander Markham, R.N., who will be second in command of the expedition, and several other gentlemen interested in Arctic discovery. In the course of his address, which was listened to with the interest it deserved, Mr. Markham congratulated the Government on having undertaken to send out vessels. He also traced the course of arctic discovery and pointed out the many advantages, geographical and otherwise, which were sure to result from the further prosecution of the task. Two large charts were suspended, for the purpose of enabling those present to follow the lecturer in his address, which ended with a slight sketch of the programme of the present expedition, and the expression of a hope that, by the summer of 1877, we should be in a position to congratulate ourselves on the successful completion of an undertaking which had been commenced by Englishmen generations since so auspiciously and to which they had contributed so largely.

Yesterday's news hold out some hope that the end of the South Wales strike and lock out may not be after all so far removed. Lord Aberdare, who has always been regarded by the miners as a sort of mediator, has appeared prominently on the scene of action, his Lordship having first been at the pains of writing to a number of coal owners on the subject of actual prices and percentages of reduction. The result of these inquiries is, that taking the figures submitted together, it is shown that, while the price of coal has been reduced at least 2s a ton, the effects on the 10 per cent. reduction in wages is to reduce the cost of raising the coal by 9d per ton. Thus, the coal owners are losers to the extent of 1s 3d per ton on the present average, as compared with August last, while, in some cases, the loss is still heavier. Lord Aberdare, on these grounds, ventures to indulge the hope that, now the matter is placed before them thus clearly, the miners will feel they are no longer justified in prolonging the contest. We sincerely trust his lordship's efforts may be successful. Already the tale of misery and suffering are becoming more terrible every day, the families, and especially the very young, being, as a matter of course, the greatest sufferers.

From abroad there are just a few items of intelligence which may interest our readers. The stirring debates about the Senate Bill are for the moment succeeded by a Ministerial crisis, the settlement of which, however, still hangs fire. M. Buffet is the likeliest man for the premiership, with M. le Duc Decazes as foreign minister. From Spain we hear of further fighting, this time in the neighbourhood of Bilbao. The accounts are, of course, conflicting, both sides claiming the victory, so that the end of the struggle seems as remote as ever. In Prussia an important step has been taken in the dispute with the Papal power. The Minister for Public Worship has introduced a Bill withdrawing the endowments granted by the State to the catholic bishops and clergy and determining the conditions on which they may be restored. Grants for clergymen attached to public institutions are exempted from the Act. The second, third and fourth clauses provided that these grants shall be restored, as soon as the bishops bind themselves to the Government in written documents to obey the law. The eleventh clause, orders that any one withdrawing or acting in violation of his written obligation, will be tried before the Courts of law, and removed from office. Thus the general provisions of the Papal Bull *de Solute Animarum*, are annulled by this Bill. From America we hear that the House of Representatives have passed the bill for the admission of Colorado as a State; that for admitting Mexico was, however, thrown out. This will be among the last of the Acts of the present House, which will by this time have been dissolved. Its successor does not assemble until the end of the year.

At the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, Bro. Constable's motion in reference to the Lifeboat Endowment Fund was very fully discussed. Notwithstanding that the mover received very considerable and unexpected support from a large body of the brethren, the motion was lost, on a division, by a small majority. We regret that our enthusiastic brother was not successful, but we are assured that he will not be discouraged. We are quite satisfied with the degree of support which was given to an idea which originated in our columns, and if the Fraternity is really interested in the matter, we are certain that the Endowment Fund will ultimately be an assured fact. The brethren who supported the motion in Grand Lodge will now, we trust, ventilate the matter in their respective Lodges. It will, perhaps, be necessary to form a Committee for the purpose of directing the movement. We need not add that our columns will always be open for the expression of opinion on the subject, and that we ourselves will do all in our power to further the cause. We shall probably have occasion to return to the subject at an early date.

The demand for seaworthy seamen, as well as seaworthy ships, is spreading rapidly. In this country the movement, which has had the advantage of the patronage of the Duke of Edinburgh, is in a fair way of success, and funds are flowing into the hands of those gentlemen who are anxious to establish a training ship in every seaport. The Germans, we learn, are, like ourselves, concerned at the falling off in the numbers of skilled seamen, and the Nautical Society of Bremen are about to take steps for remedying the evil. They, however, have determined that only lads of irreproachable character shall be admitted to their training ships. These lads must come forward voluntarily, and with the consent of their parents. There will thus be no risk of lowering the tone of the merchant service, but, on the contrary, there will be every chance of its being elevated by the advent of this training system.

The Oratorio of St. John the Baptist, composed by Mr. Macfarren, was played at the gathering of the Sacred Harmonic Society, at Exeter Hall, on Friday evening, the 26th February. The chef d'Orchesta on the occasion was Bro. Sir Michael Costa, who was ably supported by Madame Patey, Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, Mr. Santley and Mr. E. Lloyd, while the band and chorusses were all that the most fastidious could wish for. The Dead March in Saul was played, as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Sir Sterndale Bennett.

The Easter Monday Volunteer Review Day may now be considered a thing of the past. On Saturday last, at a meeting of Metropolitan Volunteer commanding officers, it was resolved that, in consequence of the impracticability of obtaining railway accommodation, the usual Easter Monday field-day be reluctantly abandoned. At the same time, it was considered desirable that divisional or brigade field-days be held at such places as might be arranged.

The London and Scottish Review is a new publication, the contents of which bid fair to be generally interesting to all classes of readers. The programme reads extremely well, and if the promises are fulfilled to the extent of only one-half, the prospects of a very successful career are evidently before it. The new claimant to public favours will appear monthly.

The talented cantatrice, Miss Rose Hersee, a daughter of Bro. Henry Hersee, was married, on 23rd February last, to Arthur Howell, Esq., of Gloucester Crescent, Regent's Park. It is to be hoped that the musical public will not be deprived of the pleasure of hearing this favourite singer, who has so firmly established her reputation both here and in America.

The *Globe* tells us that the process of dividing the proceeds of the French indemnity amongst the various German States is not yet completed. A lump sum is handed and apportioned, according to the joint wishes of the different executive governments and the Landtags. Of the £700,000 received by Mecklenburg-Schwerin, so much is

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set aside as will produce a yearly income of £3,750 to be paid to the clergy as compensation for their losses through the operation of the law abolishing fees for banns and marriages, £120,000 is to be used to raise the condition of the lower schools, £100,000 to be applied for enlarging the idiot asylum of the Duchy of Sachsenbury, £45,000 for building a museum at Schwerin, and £40,000 for a medical school to be attached to the existing local university. In Strelitz a simpler proposal is made; the share of the duchy is to be divided somewhat as its regular income; one-third passing under the personal control of the Grand Duke, one-third to the general tax account, and one-third to special works of utility to be hereafter named in detail.

A vacancy in the Girls' Institution is announced. Miss Davis, the head mistress, has resigned her appointment, and the post will be filled from the month of June instant.

The Festival of the Italian Benevolent Society was held on Thursday night, at the Albion, Aldersgate Street. Chevalier Cadorna, the Italian Minister, presided, and Lord Campbell, Lord Houghton, and Baron Heath, were amongst those present. Contributions were made to the amount of £750.

Bro. Creswick has achieved a great success, at the Holborn Theatre, as Melantius, in Beaumont and Fletcher's play of the Bridal. He is well supported by Messrs. Pennington, Edgar, Bro. Hall; Misses Leighton, Harding, &c. Bro. Talbot Smith is the acting manager of the company.

Bro. Staveley Hill, Q.C. and M.P. for West Staffordshire has been appointed Counsel to the Admiralty and Judge Advocate of the Fleet, in Succession to Mr. Huddleston, recently M.P. for Norwich, who has been raised to the vacant judgeship in the Court of Common Pleas.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* publishes a list of the Railway casaulties for the month of February, from which we glean that, within the 28 days of February there have been eighteen "accidents," of which no fewer than fifteen were collisions. The results are that one man has been killed, seven persons have been dangerously injured, forty-six more or less badly hurt, about 100 sadly knocked about, cut, bruised, and shaken, and a goodly bill for compensation has scored up against the companies involved, not to speak of the pecuniary losses in destruction of rolling stock. The Lancashire and Yorkshire contributes three, the Midland four, the London and North Western three, the Great Western two. In six cases the collisions were provided for by shunting when passenger trains were due, and this was done in at least one instance in spite of the "block" system. In other cases trains were crossing level junctions, and ran broadside into each other. Two collisions were caused by fast trains chasing and running into slow trains, and in five instances passenger trains met with accidents because the officials forgot that they had left carriages or trucks standing on the main line. Thus it will be seen that, though only one man has been killed, the disasters have been of a worse type, indicating an increased and persistent recklessness and negligence.

The Annual Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls will take place at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Wednesday, the 12th May prox., on which occasion W. Bro. the Right Honourable David Henry Stone, P.M., P.I., and Past Grand Steward, will preside. It is needless, of course, to enlarge on the merits of an Institution which necessarily commends itself to every member of the Craft. Suffice it, for the present, to remark that during the past year the School House has been very considerably enlarged, and, as a consequence, the number of girls on the establishment increased from one hundred and twelve to one hundred and forty-eight. This increase is highly satisfactory, and speaks well for the efforts, both of the Committee and of the Craft generally, to extend the institution so as to meet the ever increasing demand upon its resources. At the same time, we are assured that, great as have been the efforts towards improving the usefulness of these Charities, immediately supported by the whole Craft, it is still possible, with the daily increasing influence of Masonry, to more nearly meet these demands. Every year witnesses a heavier pressure on the resources of this and the two other Masonic Charities. Can every member of the Craft, having a due regard to his means, conscientiously claim a share in this good work so well carried out?

Lieutenant Cameron, R.N. will read a paper at the Royal Geographical Society, entitled "Examination of the Southern Half of Lake Tanganyika," at next Monday's meeting of the Royal Geographical Society.

Our respected brother, His Royal Highness Prince Leopold has, given a donation of £50 to the funds of the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, through the medium of Sir William Jenner, Bart., M.D.

Our article on "Masonic Minstrelsy" appears to have attracted the attention of one among our readers, who has accordingly obliged us with a copy of a "Masonic Poem," which, we are given to understand has met with a very favourable reception among the Craft, and which, therefore, will prove no doubt of interest to the body of our friends. We believe we are correct in stating that the poem is not exactly a fresh inspiration of our contributor. At the same time, it appears to us not altogether unworthy a place in our columns.

We meet upon the level, and we part upon the square;
What words of precious meaning those words Masonic are!
Come, let us contemplate them, they are worthy of a thought;
In the very *soul* of Masonry those precious words are wrought.

We meet upon the level, though from every station come,
The rich man from his mansion, and the poor man from his home:
For the one must leave his *heritage* outside the Mason's door,
While the other finds his best respect upon the chequered floor.

We part upon the square, for the world must have its due,
We mingle with the multitude, a faithful band and true;
But the influence of our gatherings in memory is green,
And we long, upon the level, to renew the happy scene.

There's a world where all are equal—we are journeying toward it fast;
We shall meet upon the level there, when the gates of death are passed
We shall stand before the *Orient*, and our MASTER will be there,
To try the *blocks* we offer with His own unerring square.

We shall meet upon the level there, but never thence depart;
There's a mansion—'tis all ready for each faithful, trusting heart;
There's a mansion and a welcome, and a multitude is there,
Who have met upon the level, and been tried upon the square.

Let us meet upon the level then, while labouring patient here;
Let us meet and let us labour, though the labour be severe;
Already in the *western sky* the signs bid us prepare
To gather up our working tools and part upon the square.

Hands 'round, ye faithful Masons, in the bright fraternal chain,
We part upon the square below—to meet in *Heaven* again.
Oh! what words of precious meaning those words Masonic are,
We meet upon the level, and we part upon the square!

ROB MORRIS.

THE BESSEMER SALOON STEAMER.

The new Channel steamer Bessemer, which left Hull on Wednesday arrived at Gravesend last evening at six o'clock, after having experienced half a gale of wind and heavy beam sea during Wednesday night. Lord Henry Lennox, M.P., her Majesty's First Commissioner of Works, who was the only invited passenger, writes that although some of the minor works were yet incomplete the vessel proved herself most remarkable for the almost total absence of pitching, and of heavy and violent rolling. Although the supply of coal was limited, it was found that for several hours a speed of between 14 and 16 knots an hour was kept up. The suspended saloon was completely under the command of the manipulator, but some minor defects in the apparatus and the inexperience of the manipulator tended to prevent its complete success. The success of the trial was greater than could fairly have been expected on a first trial, and Lord H. Lennox was quite convinced that in this ship a great advance has been made towards remedying the discomforts of the present Channel passage. The Bessemer will today be taken into dock at Midwall for completion, and before Easter she will commence running between Dover and Calais.

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DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be greatly obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the kingdom would favour us with a copy of their summonses each time of issue.

SATURDAY, 6th MARCH.

General Committee Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, at 4.
142—St. Thomas's, Willis's Rooms, King-street, St. James's.
R. A. 975—Rose of Denmark, Star and Garter, Kew.

MONDAY, 8th MARCH.

5—St. George and Corner Stone, Freemasons' Hall.
29—St. Albans, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
59—Royal Naval, Freemasons' Hall.
90—St. John's, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
136—Good Report, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
193—Confidence, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
222—St. Andrews, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
1506—Highgate, Gatehouse Hotel, Highgate.
R. A. 23—Mount Sion, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.
R. A. 1178—University, Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 1319—Asaph, Freemasons' Hall.

240—St. Hilda, Freemasons' Hall, South Shields.
296—Royal Brunswick, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
661—Fawcett, New Masonic Hall, Seaham Harbour.
949—Williamson, Monkwearmouth, Sunderland.
1221—Defence, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
R. A. 306—Alfred, 33 Albion-street, Leeds.

TUESDAY, 9th MARCH.

46—Old Union, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
96—Burlington, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
166—Union, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
180—St. James's Union, Freemasons' Hall.
196—Percy, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
211—St. Michael's, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
228—United Strength, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell.
235—Nine Muses, Queen's Hotel, Cork-street, Bond-street.
548—Wellington, White Swan Tavern, Deptford.
817—Cosmopolitan, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
933—Doric, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
1158—Southern Star, Montpelier Tavern, Walworth-road (Station).—Emergency.
R. A. 145—Prudent Brethren, Freemasons' Hall.

80—St. John's, Masonic Hall, Sunderland.
495—Wakefield, Masonic Hall, Wakefield.
803—Zetland, Royal Hotel, Cleckheaton.
764—Harbour of Refuge, Masonic Hall, West Hartlepool.
R. A. 289—Fidelity, Leeds.

WEDNESDAY, 10th MARCH.

Committee, Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, at 3.
9—Albion, Regent's Masonic Hall, Air-street, Regent-street.
11—Enoch, Freemasons' Hall.
13—Union, Waterloo, Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich.
15—Kent, Freemasons' Hall.
87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth.
147—Justice, White Swan, High-street, Deptford.
749—Belgrave, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, Limehouse.
1017—Montefiore, Freemasons' Hall.
1306—St. John of Wapping, Gun Tavern, High-street, Wapping.
R. A. 1260—Hervey, Freemasons' Hall.

820—Lily Lodge of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, Surrey.
1018—Shakespeare, Freemasons' Hall, Bradford.

THURSDAY, 11th MARCH.

19—R. Athelstan, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
91—Regularity, Freemasons' Hall.
206—Friendship, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
263—Bank of England, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
534—Polish National, Freemasons' Hall.
657—Canonbury, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
804—Dalhousie, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
879—Southwark, Southwark Park Tavern, Southwark.
1076—Capper, Marine Hotel, Victoria Docks, West Ham.
1286—Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tavern, Seven Sisters-road, Holloway.
1321—Emblematic, Tulse Hill Hotel, Tulse Hill.
1471—Islington, Cock Tavern, Highbury.
R. A. 72—Royal Jubilee, Horn's Tavern, Kennington.
R. A. 554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.

97—Palatine, Masonic Hall, Sunderland.
139—Britannia, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
R. A. 509—Tees, Mason's Court, Stockton-on-Tees.
K. T.—Salamanca, Halifax.

FRIDAY, 15th MARCH.

53—Britannic, Freemasons' Hall.
1134—Caledonian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
187—Bedford, Freemasons' Hall.
177—Caveac, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
1430—Earl Spencer, Freemasons' Hall, New Wandsworth.

458—Aire and Calder, Ouse-street, Goole.
701—Harrogate and Claro, Masonic Rooms, Harrogate.
1121—Wear Valley, Talbot Hotel, Bishop Auckland.
R. A. 61—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Halifax.
K. T.—Hope, Freemasons' Hall, Huddersfield.

SATURDAY, 13th MARCH.

108—London, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
173—Phœnix Freemasons' Hall.
176—Caveac, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
1328—Granite, Freemasons' Hall.

1361—United Service, Greyhound, Richmond, Surrey.
1426—Great City, Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—145—St. Stephen, St. James's Hall, Writer's-court.
TUESDAY—1—Mary's Chapel, Waterloo Hotel, Waterloo-place.
WEDNESDAY—2—Canongate, Kilwinning-street, St. John's Chapel, St. John-street.
R. A. 1—Edinburgh, Freemasons' Hall.
THURSDAY—8—Journeymen, Blackfriars-street, High-street.
FRIDAY—56—Canongate, Kilwinning-street, St. John's Chapel, St. John's-st.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Caveac Chapter, No. 176.—A convocation of this Chapter was held on the 27th February, at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate Street. Comp. J. Quihapton Z., W. S. Wyman H., G. K. Lehman J., C. T. Dorey P.Z., P. A. Nairne P.Z., F. Walters P.Z. Treasurer, Foreman P.Z., W. M. Goss S.N., J. B. Sorrell 1st Assistant, S. Pownceby, C. T. Speight Janitor. The Chapter was opened, and the minutes confirmed. Comp. Wyman was installed as M.E.Z. by Comp. Scott P.Z. The bye-laws were revised, and the Chapter was closed. There was no banquet.

Victoria Chapter, 1056.—This Chapter met on Monday, the 1st of March, at Mason's Hall, Masons' Avenue, E.C. Comps. Eenhuns M.E.Z., George Newman H., and J. D. Taylor J. presided. All preliminaries having been duly disposed of, Bros. James Oswald Gardner of 1328, Robert George Cooper of 1349, and George Fisher Harwood of 1056 were admitted to the degree. The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows:—Comps. George Newman Z., J. D. Taylor H., James Brett P.Z. Treasurer, A. A. Pendlebury S.E., Noehmer S.N., W. Musto P.S., W. Grant Janitor. Comp. E. Gottheil P.Z. proposed that a P.Z.'s jewel of the usual value should, on the next occasion, be presented to the M.E.Z., for the efficient manner in which he had conducted the business of the Chapter during his year of office. Comp. Gottheil presumed that the rest of the Companions would heartily join with him in expressing their approbation, and unanimously vote the well deserved token of regard to Comp. Eenhuns, who, although a former resident in London, now lives in Denmark, his native land, from which place he had to come to do his duties in this Chapter. Great credit was also due to him, being a foreigner, for the manner in which he performed the ceremonies, showing clearly his mastery of the English language, by the intelligence with which every part thereof was rendered. Comp. Edward Clark P.Z., in seconding the resolution, endorsed all the statements of the proposer. The vote was unanimously agreed to. After banquet the usual proceedings took place, every one expressing their deep regret that the familiar face of Comp. James Brett P.Z. (who was absent through indisposition) was not to be seen. If the effect of hearty good wishes have any power he may look forward to a speedy recovery. The visitors present were: Comp. James Weaver P.Z. 862, John Seex S.N. 186, and John H. Dolby 141.

Lodge of Joppa, No. 188.—A numerous assemblage of the brethren met on Monday, the 1st inst., at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate Street. Bro. S. Hickman W.M., A. Dodson S.W., L. Lazarus J.W., L. Auerbaan Treasurer, E. P. Albert P.M. Secretary, J. Miller S.D., C. Hymans J.D., P. E. Van Noorden Organist, Borgen Steward, and P.M.'s Bros. H. Berkowitz, Obed Roberts, H. M. Levy, J. Phillips, L. Alexander, I. Abrahams, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. A. Norwick, C. Harris, and Shepherd, No. 69. were passed to the second degree. Mr. Hertzberg was initiated into the Order. Bro. Pearce was raised to the third degree. At the conclusion of the various ceremonies, great satisfaction was expressed at the efficient way in which they were carried out. The Lodge was then called off, and the brethren sat down to a very enticing banquet, provided by Bro. W. G. Jennings, the Manager of the Albion Tavern Company, and superintended by Bros. Keeping and M. Silva. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given. The W.M., in proposing the toast of the Benevolent Fund in connection with the Lodge, coupled with it the health of Bro. Adam, who replied. He felt proud at being the President. The funds had been collected by the members of the Lodge only, and their donations amounted at the present time to £1,175. (Loud cheers.) It was always a pleasure to respond to this toast, and the cause advocated was one that was worthy the attention and consideration of others, and he hoped to see the idea carried out in almost all the Lodges. Bro. J. Hertzberg returned thanks for the toast of the Newly Initiated. Bro. O. Roberts P.M. then rose and proposed the toast of the W.M., whom he characterised as a true and genuine Mason. He was one who had not only supported the cause of charity, but had worked the various degrees required of him perfectly, and was well qualified to preside over so large and influential an assembly as this Lodge. (Cheers.) The W.M., in reply, said he thanked Bro. Roberts for the encominms passed on him. It would only be an incentive to continue what he had intended from the moment he had been placed in the chair, and that was to do his duty. While he had the approbation of the brethren, his year of office would always be looked back upon by him with pleasurable remembrance. Brother Dimsdale P.M. 69 responded to the toast of "The Visitors," amongst whom may be mentioned Bros. Cambridge 15, Shepherd 69, Flotcher 180, Marsh W.M. No. 9, Ridler 219, Edwards 56, Franks, Smith 65, T. Maidwell 27, Webb 9, Fründlich 1017. The toast of the Wardens and Officers was then given, which was followed by the Tyler's toast. The W.M. had instructed Bro. P. E. Van Noorden, the Organist of the Lodge, to provide a musical entertainment, and great credit is due to him for the talent introduced. Miss Estelle Emrick, a rising artiste, with a splendid contralto voice, delighted the brethren by her artistic singing. Miss Julia Sydney, Mr. Moss, and Bro. S. Webb, whose playing on the violin, accompanied by Bro. Van Noorden, in a selection from "Guillaume Tell," was listened to with attention, and well merited the applause given at its conclusion. The Lodge had previously been called on, and several matters were discussed, and proposals for initiation were handed in to the Secretary, after which the brethren separated.

Royal Oak Lodge, No. 871.—This capital working Lodge met on the 23rd inst., at the White Swan Tavern, High Street,

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Deptford. Bro. G. Andrews W.M., S. O. Lewin S.W., H. J. Tuson J.W., F. Walters P.G.P (Middlesex) Secretary, H. J. Fisher Organist, J. J. Pakes S.D., H. J. Wells J.D., J. Baxter Langley I.G., and P.M.'s W. Myatt, J. Hawke, J. Truelove, and above fifty brethren. The Lodge having been opened and the minutes confirmed, Mr. Phillips was duly initiated into the Order. Bro. S. O. Lewin S.W. was then presented to the Lodge, and a board of installed Masters being formed, that Bro. was installed by the retiring W.M. On the admission of the brethren, the W.M. was saluted according to ancient form. He then invested his officers as follows:—H. J. Tuson S.W., J. J. Pakes J.W., W. Andrews P.M. Treasurer, F. Walters P.G.P. (Middlesex) Secretary. The Organist and Tyler were also re-invested. A vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to Bro. Andrews I.P.M., for his able rendering of the ceremony of installation. He was also presented with a gold Past Master's jewel, for the able manner he had fulfilled the duties of the chair. The Lodge was then closed and a banquet followed. The visitors present were Bros. J. Remaite P.M. 12, W. Penchison 12, C. Nash P.M. 79, H. Roberts P.M. 79, H. R. Harker 79, W. J. Laing P.M. 45, H. Newton 167, H. J. Green 190, Roper W.M. 147, J. Lightfoot P.M. 147, W. Tibballs 169, W. Woodwick P.M. 193, J. H. Ryley 188, J. J. West 548, C. J. Dilley P.M. 147, R. Beavey 700, H. H. Francis P.M. 857, J. H. Miller P.M. 907, Watson 1155, J. W. Baldwin W.M. 1423, H. Upton 933, &c.

Whittington Chapter, No. 862.—A Convocation of this Chapter was held at Anderton's Hotel on Saturday, 27th February. Companions Hurlston M.E.Z., Stephens H., Kingston J., W. A. Tinney P.S., A. Moore D.C., Jas. Brett P.Z. and James Weaver P.Z. The Chapter was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Three brethren were exalted into R.A. Masonry. The Chapter was closed, and a very excellent banquet followed.

Grosvenor Lodge, No. 1256.—A meeting of this Lodge was held on the 2nd inst., at the Westminster Palace Hotel. Bro. Bethell W.M., J. C. Cox S.W., Thurkle J.W., Meredith P.M. Treasurer, C. A. Cottebrune P.G.P. Secretary, Hughes S.D., Elliot J.D., Cantle I.G., Lowenthal I.P.M., T. Parker P.M., &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. Jones, Pearce and Cole were raised to the 3rd degree, Bros. Dovey, Barron and Richards were passed to the 2nd degree, and Messrs. Banse, Oakshette and C. R. Watts were initiated into the Order. Bro. J. C. Cox S.W. was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year; Bro. Meredith P.M. was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Woodstock Tyler. The newly elected W.M. announced his intention of acting as Steward at the next Festival for the Boys' School, and the Lodge voted the sum of £10 10s to be placed on his list. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren partook of a very excellent banquet. The usual toasts were given. Bros. J. Boyd P.G.P. and Rogers G.S. were present as visitors.

Asaph Lodge, No. 1319.—This Lodge met on Monday, the 1st instant, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Bro. E. Frewin W.M., Jekyll S.W., W. A. Tinney J.W., E. Terry S.D., H. Tinney J.D., C. Coote P.M., P.G.O. (Middlesex), E. S. Jones P.M., J. Chamberlin P.M., and Jas. Weaver P.G.O. (Middlesex), P.M. 862 and 1319, and about twenty-five brethren were present. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Three brethren were raised to the 3rd degree, and one gentleman was initiated. The Lodge was then closed and the brethren separated.

Gladsmuir Lodge, No. 1385, Herts, held its meeting on Friday the 26th ult. Bro. Hayward Edwards W.M. presiding. There were present, Past Masters Lowthin, Wingham, W. Cutbush; J. Cutbush S.W., Dr. Livingstone J.W., Young S.D., Venables J.D., Askew Secretary, and others. The chief business transacted was the report of the Auditors, which was read by Bro. Grey. On motion, duly proposed and seconded, this report, which showed a balance in favour of the Lodge, was received, and directed to be recorded on the minutes. Lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned to banquet, and passed a very agreeable evening.

Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, No. 1507.—The weekly meeting of this Lodge was well attended on Friday evening, 26th February. Bros. W. Side as W.M., Willing S.W., Williams J.W. The ceremonies of installation and passing were rehearsed, and the first section of the Second Lecture was worked, under Preceptor Adams. Bro. Willing presented the Lodge with a beautifully illuminated list of the founders' names, on vellum, and elegantly framed, which was acknowledged by the brethren with a most hearty and unanimous vote of thanks. Bro. Side also received recognition for the careful manner he had conducted the ceremonies. The brethren of this district would do well to drop in at the Metropolitan Club, 269 Pentonville Road, as these weekly gatherings are becoming very popular.

The Metropolitan Royal Arch Chapter of Improvement, meet every Tuesday, at 6.30, at the Jamaica Coffee House, St. Michael's Alley, Cornhill, under the able Preceptorship of Comp. James Brett P.Z. On every occasion the ceremony of exaltation is rehearsed, and, except in the absence of Comp. Brett, the sections or illustrations are explained. At the last meeting, when the offices were occupied by Comps. Noehmer Z., Constable H., Wier J., and Hooper P.S., the ceremony was most efficiently performed. Companions in search of Royal Arch Masonic knowledge cannot do better than embrace the facilities afforded in this Chapter of Improvement, as the working of Comp. Brett is celebrated for its purity and clearness. The place of meeting is central, and the hour early, enabling those who live at a distance to reach their homes in reasonable time.

THE DRAMA.

The 100th Night of Hamlet—Shakspeare at the Prince of Wales's—Mr. Hollingshead's Revivals—Arrah-na-Pogue at the Surrey.

THE 100th night of *Hamlet*, at the LYCEUM, was celebrated on Friday week by a banquet, at which not only the artistes of the theatre, but a large number of authors, journalists and others were present. Mr. Bateman of course presided, and in the course of the evening, or rather morning, some very interesting speeches were made. The new Examiner of Plays, Mr. Pigott, proposed Mr. Bateman's health, congratulating him upon his great success in the field of the legitimate drama, and, in particular, of his latest triumph, *Hamlet*. Mr. Bateman replied at length, and paid a high tribute to the intelligence and artistic power of Mr. Henry Irving, whose health he in turn concluded by proposing. Mr. Irving replied in an unaffected manner, and spoke with great feeling of the unvarying kindness and sympathy he had experienced from every one connected with the theatre. He said that the first great impression he had received from acting had been in Edinburgh, in a performance of Mr. Webster's. He proposed the health of this veteran and resumed his seat amidst tremendous applause. Mr. Webster, replying to the toast, said, that he had seen Edmund Kean play Hamlet, and next to that great artist he ranked Mr. Irving. Other speeches were made by Mr. Charles Dickens, Mr. Compton and Mr. Chippendale, the last named gentleman stating that he had played Polonius to the Hamlets of Edmund Kean, Charles Young and J. P. Kemble, and had never been more impressed than he had been by the Hamlet of Mr. Irving. The banquet was in every way a great success.

It is again reported that *The Merchant of Venice* is to be produced at the PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, and this time we are favoured with the entire cast of the performance. Miss Ellen Terry is to play Portia, Mrs. Bancroft Nerissa, Miss Josephs Jessica; Shylock is allotted to Mr. Coghlan, Gratiano to Mr. Lin Rayne, Antonio to Mr. Archer, and Gobbo to Mr. Collette. The cast is certainly an extraordinary one, and will probably give rise to a considerable amount of curiosity—if the rumour be really correct.

The course of the theatrical stream may be described as taking a Shakespearian turn. Mr. Hollingshead, prompted doubtless by the success attending his production of the *Merry Wives of Windsor*, has enlisted the services of his combined staff, and at each of the three theatres under his control produces Shakespeare. We are now having the *Merchant of Venice* at the HOLBORN, with Mr. Creswick as Shylock, supported by Mr. Pennington as Bassanio, Mr. Edgar as Antonio, and Mr. Hall as Launcelot Gobbo. Miss Leighton acts impressively as Portia. At the OPERA COMIQUE, *As You Like It*, with Mr. and Mrs. Kendal, and Mr. H. Vezin; whilst at the GAIETY, the *Midsummer Night's Dream* is proving immensely successful. *Romeo and Juliet* will be produced at the CRYSTAL PALACE on Tuesday next.

Mr. W. Holland, under the determination that the glories of the SURREY THEATRE shall not fade while he directs its affairs, has produced Mr. Dion Boucicault's favourite Irish play, *Arrah-na-Pogue*. This popular piece, though not so often played as the *Colleen Bawn*, never fails to attract. On this occasion it has been most carefully placed upon the stage, and the various parts are well filled. Mr. H. Forrester, who is always painstaking, gives a most effective rendering of Shaun-the-Post; while Mr. F. Shepherd as O'Grady, Mr. H. Nicholls as Michael Feeney, Mr. H. C. Sidney as Beamish M'Coul, render good service in their respective roles. Miss Marie Henderson, who made her first appearance at this Theatre on Saturday last, faithfully portrays Arrah. We feel sure the revival will be a most successful one.

THE LORD MAYOR'S VISIT TO LIVERPOOL.

On Thursday morning the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, Bro. D. H. Stone, left the Mansion House for Liverpool, on the invitation of the mayor of that town, whose guest he will be during his stay there. It is not in any sense a state visit, and therefore the Lord Mayor was only accompanied by his private secretary, Mr. Vine. For this reason the sword and mace bearers of the corporation, with their emblems of civic pomp, were wanting on the occasion. The authorities of the London and North Western Railway, by which the chief magistrate of the City of London travelled, placed one of their best saloon carriages at his disposal.

At the Lime-street Station his lordship was received in state by the Mayor of Liverpool (Mr. R. Steele) and the Corporation. In the evening the mayor entertained his lordship and a distinguished company of more than 250 persons in the Town-hall. The Lord Provosts of Edinburgh and Glasgow, and the mayors of the principle boroughs in the United Kingdom were also present. "The Health of the Lord Mayor of London" followed the loyal toasts, and his lordship, who was loudly cheered on rising, responded to the mayor's remarks in a forcible speech. After thanking him for the complimentary manner in which he had been pleased to speak of himself and the Corporation of London, he urged the desirability and advantage of a wider diffusion of municipal privileges and principles, which undoubtedly furnished the germs of general legislation. The toast of "The Municipalities of the United Kingdom" was responded to by the Lord Provost of Edinburgh. The Lord Mayor proposed "The Health of the Mayor of Liverpool," who was warmly and repeatedly applauded during his response. The Mayor will conduct his distinguished visitor over the docks to-day (Friday), and in the afternoon the Corporation will give a *dejeûner* in his honour at the Town Hall.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All Letters and communications must be addressed to the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, *67 Barbican, London, E.C.*

W. J. T.—Your communication never reached us. Will you kindly inquire into the matter, and let us know the result.

F. W., Notts.—Many thanks for your offer. We shall be pleased to hear from you.

WARDEN.—The decision, in our opinion, was correct.

W. M.—If properly represented to the Provincial Grand Master we should think the matter could be arranged.

T. Q.—So mote it be. But we are not the contrivers of such things.

JOHN T.—We have already had an article on the subject, or rather a summary of the work. Perhaps Bro. *Freemason* has taken a leaf out of our book. Of this you are as good a judge as we.

DOWN A MINE.

I will not attempt to describe that descent. There are things of which no description can convey even a shadow, and this was one of them. We are indeed "like them that go down alive into the pit"—a passage which recurs to me with tenfold force as we sink away from the busy, green, sunny world, and the cold, silent cavern engulfs us deeper and deeper in its dismal gorge. At the mouth of the pit we are surrounded by multitudes of little birds, which flutter around us as if bidding us farewell; their beautiful plumage, that glances in the sunlight as they flit to and fro, contrasting strangely with the dismal shadows into which we are about to plunge; but as we descend, even these leave us, and we are utterly alone. An immense solitude—a crushing, overwhelming silence. I think I never conceived the idea of perfect silence before. Even in the stillness of midnight, or of a calm in the lonely tropical seas, you have echoes, vibrations—the shadows, as it were, of sounds that have been—but here there is neither sound nor echo; it is the stillness of mid-air combined with the stillness of the grave. In that enormous isolation, even the presence of my comrades gives me no feeling of companionship—with two men close beside me, I am as utterly solitary as if I were quite alone. We are now midway. The cheerless dimness which rises from below gives a wan, ghastly look to every crag and hollow of the great wilderness of buried mountains through which we are passing. Strange and monstrous forms, such as those with which the grim fancy of the Norseman peopled his native solitudes, loom giant-like through the leaden haze. Grim faces scowl at us as we pass; clawed hands start forward, as if to bar our way; gaping jaws gnash at us, and huge half-seen monsters seem striving to topple loose crags upon our heads; but in all this multiplicity of furious life there is not the faintest sound! It is a hell in dumb show! Suddenly the bucket is jarred by a heavy shock which shakes it from top to bottom. We have just grazed a huge jutting crag, vast and shadowy as the fragment of some ruined planet—such as Martin would have peopled with the remnants of nations fleeing from the terrors of the Last Judgment. And now at length, after an interval which seems immeasurable, sounds from below begin to break the tremendous silence. We hear, faintly at first, but ever more and more distinctly the stroke of pickaxe and spade, the rumble of the barrows rolling to and fro, the cheery shouts of the workmen; and the sense of having been exiled from human companionship for a limitless space of time is so intense as to defy even the palpable realities of time and space. Moment by moment, the shadows below grow less and less dark, the tiny figures of the workmen more and more distinct, the features of the strange panorama larger, and firmer, and clearer, till at length, with a violent shock, our bucket dashes itself upon the great sheet of ice and gravel at the bottom, and the journey is over. Instinctively I look at my watch, and start to find that the whole descent has occupied only seven minutes. 'I know now what men mean when they talk of living a lifetime in one moment,' remark I to my companion, as we disembark."—*From "Cassell's Family Magazine" for March.*

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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. I.—No. 11. SATURDAY, 13th MARCH 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

APPROACHING INSTALLATION OF THE PRINCE OF WALES.

WE are in a position to furnish, for the information of our readers, the official details connected with the approaching Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as M.W. Grand Master, so far, at least, as regards the locality and date, the admission of Members, and the appointment or selection of Stewards. The ceremony has been fixed, by command of His Royal Highness, to take place at the Royal Albert Hall, South Kensington, on Wednesday, the 28th April next, at 3 p.m. punctually. This building has been selected with a view to provide accommodation, so far as space and circumstance permit, not only for all qualified members of Grand Lodge, but also for Master Masons, not members of Grand Lodge, who may desire to be present. In order to make the necessary arrangements, each W.M is requested to fill up and return to Grand Secretary, on or before the 31st instant, a form containing the names of all such Brethren; and no Brother, whether a qualified member of Grand Lodge or not, will be admitted unless his name has been so returned within the time specified. If the needful accommodation cannot be provided, an equitable distribution of tickets for the admission of Master Masons will be made to each Lodge. Brethren who are subscribing Members of more than one Lodge are to return their names on one list only. Tickets will not be transferable, and it is consequently requested that no Brother send in his name unless he is prepared to attend. We have further to state that, as an additional number of Brethren will be required to assist the Executive in carrying out the necessary arrangements for the admission and seating of the Brethren, the M.W. Grand Master has been pleased to order that each of the London Lodges shall have the privilege of nominating a Steward for that purpose. The W.M. of each Lodge which may desire to exercise this privilege is accordingly requested to forward to Grand Secretary the name and address of such Brother, on or before the 31st instant. If the number of Brethren so returned, however, exceed the number required for this service, the selection will be determined by Ballot. It is to be understood that every Brother whose name is so returned must undertake to attend the meetings whenever he is summoned, to be present at the Hall at noon of the day appointed, and to undertake the duties assigned to him. Those who personally discharge the duties of Stewards will have the privilege of wearing a special Jewel which His Royal Highness has been pleased to sanction. The cost of such Jewel is not to exceed five pounds.

THE LIFEBOAT ENDOWMENT FUND.

WE announced, last week, the interesting fact that ninty-nine members of Grand Lodge voted in favour of Bro. Constable's motion, to which we have referred at length in recent issues. One hundred and fifteen of the brethren voted against the motion, which was therefore lost by the small majority of sixteen. In any circumstances we should regard this result as most encouraging, but when we remember that the motion was discussed at an advanced hour of the evening, when many brethren had left the Hall, and when we further bear in mind that the idea of providing an Endowment Fund is quite new to many of the members of Grand Lodge, we are constrained to confess that thus far the success of the agitation has exceeded our most sanguine expectations. In truth we did not think that Bro. Constable would have been able to command so large a following at this early stage of the scheme. The idea of an Endowment Fund has indeed been readily taken up by many brethren, but adequate machinery has not yet been devised for the purpose of bringing the matter before the great body of the Order. Organisation is needed, and, if we might venture to make a suggestion, we should at once urge our friends who are interested in the matter to form a committee, and issue a brief address to the Lodges. We are fully assured that our brethren are prepared to come forward with their subscriptions, and that cash will be readily voted from Lodge funds. But in these matters Englishmen expect that the usual business formalities should be respected, and without the assistance of a zealous committee we fear the idea may languish for lack of proper management. It is very evident that there is a strong disposition on the part of the members of Grand Lodge to fall in with the views of the mover of the motion. The suggestion is one fully consonant with the principles of benevolence which are fostered by the Fraternity, and when the matter has been more fully ventilated outside, we are quite certain that a donation from the funds of the Chief Temple of Masonry will not be wanting. We have little or nothing to say as to the tone of the speeches of those who opposed the proposition, but we cannot forbear remarking that Bro. Havers' suggestion that a second boat should be presented to the Lifeboat Association entirely misses the object which the promoters of the Endowment scheme have in view. The secretary of the Association has informed us that there is never any difficulty in providing new boats to replace those which are unfit for service, but the Society really needs funds to meet the cost of keeping its great flotilla in working order. A new boat, contributed by a well meaning person, ignorant of the facts of the case, is a sort of white elephant to the Society. It must be maintained in working order; its crew must be paid their fees for periodical exercise, or actual service, and the station, we believe, must be visited at specific times by a confidential agent of the Association. Moreover, in each district there is a local committee, having the immediate care of the craft in the locality, and the necessary expenses of these bodies fall upon the parent society. The annual charge upon each of the boats possessed by the Association is £70, and as there are about 400 of these craft stationed at the various exposed points on the coast, the Society is called upon to find the very large sum of £28,000 to meet the working expenses of each year. We are prepared to say that at the present moment there is urgent need for funds, and that the Society will be thankful to have the annual charge of any one of its boats taken off its shoulders. If the Association were relieved to any appreciable extent from the undue financial pressure which its vast organisation entails, it would be prepared to undertake further work which calls for completion. There are still many stations on the coast that need a Lifeboat, and upon some of the more dangerous points it would be an advantage if two or more of these arks of safety could be maintained. The great cost, however, of maintaining the Lifeboat flotilla in an efficient working condition effectually prevents the Association from further extending its operations.

We feel assured that Grand Lodge cannot be fully acquainted with these grave facts, and we are quite certain that to our brethren generally they will possess all the charm of novelty. The idea has somehow or other got

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abroad that the Lifeboat Association can always obtain any amount of money; that it has only to appeal to the public when it is in need of funds to find a golden stream pouring into its treasury. Members of the press, who see a little behind the scenes of most of the benevolent schemes which engross a share of public attention, know how idle these dreams are. They are constantly receiving requests of one kind or another, and the admirable secretary of the Lifeboat Association constantly appeals, and never, we are happy to say, in vain, to our journalistic brethren for assistance in bringing the operations of the Society before the world. The Association is greatly indebted to the press of the country for continuous and powerful aid in the furtherance of its benevolent intentions, but it is anxious to inspire organised bodies like the Masonic Fraternity with a desire to afford substantial assistance from funds which are subscribed for the purposes of charity. If the various corporate institutions which abound in England were to make an effort it might be possible to relieve the Association of all anxiety with regard to its future operations. We are certain that our brethren will be anxious to lead the way in this good work. They will be proud to give a new and thoroughly practical turn to the overflowing charity of Englishmen, and if they succeed in endowing their own boat, the London Mercantile world, the Civil Service, and other bodies will assuredly follow so good an example. With regard to our own past or prospective share in this work we desire to say little. We shall be prepared to fall in with the views of any Committee which may be formed for the purpose of making the Endowment idea a fact. We shall be willing to set forth the views of the Committee, to support its policy, and to publish any appeals it may desire to make, free of charge. If it should be thought necessary, we will readily receive contributions, which will be paid over to the account we have already provisionally opened with the London and County Bank. We do not, however, desire to force ourselves unduly upon the attention of the Order in this matter. The idea of an Endowment Fund did indeed originate in our columns, and we shall be proud, as its sponsors, to take an active share in the work of the Committee, but if it should be thought wise to dispense with our suggestions, and to adopt an entirely independent line of action, we shall still be ready to watch the agitation, and render such assistance as it is in our power to afford. All we desire is, to see the scheme successfully carried out. Wide publicity has already been given to the report of the debate in Grand Lodge, and if it should go forth to the world that the Masons as a body are indifferent to the claims of one of the noblest institutions of this country, the Order will be certain to suffer more or less in prestige. We venture, in conclusion, to urge Brother Constable and his friends to set about the formation of a Committee immediately. The ninety-nine gentlemen who supported the motion have given a tacit pledge that they will do all in their power to further the cause in their respective districts. There is nothing like striking while the iron is hot. We feel assured that an appeal from a Committee of Brethren will meet with a hearty and enthusiastic response from every Lodge in the Kingdom.

THE FREEMASON AT HOME.

THE Roman Catholic Church ignores Freemasonry, because it is a secret society. The Pope, the Cardinals, and the Priests, go on the assumption that secrecy must necessarily be an evil thing, and that if it were a gospel of truth it would be a gospel for all men, and not for a chosen few. This opinion is shared by many men of the world, who arrive at a similar result by a different process of reasoning, and who, ignorant of the basis on which our Order rests, argue from a false premiss, and so arrive at a mistaken conclusion. We need not be surprised, therefore, when a great institution like the Roman Catholic Church, supplemented by the cold intellect called worldly, arrives at a given mental conclusion to find that such opinion should be not uncommon with the sisters, and more especially with the wives of Masons. We, who are acquainted with the principles which guide our conduct, might easily afford to smile at what appears but as the confusion and blind wandering of a traveller lost in a forest. We might easily afford to smile, it is true, but this practice of the sneerer, who sits serenely aloft, and laughs at the intellectual gropings of his less taught brethren, can never be the way with good Masons. Powerful for good and evil, as the Roman Catholic Church undoubtedly is, and knowing, as we do know, that the Pope himself, as a young man, was initiated into Freemasonry, we could bear its censure calmly enough. So with the men of the world who deride our Order, we may comfort ourselves with the knowledge that very few great things have ever been accomplished by what are called men of the world. That the very faculty of enthusiasm, which they lack, is the quality above all others which keeps the ball of this world rolling, and that, instead of being called men of the world, they should be called men outside the world. They hold the same relation to true progress as the critics do to the stage, or the press to the legislature. Of themselves they originate nothing; self elected fault finders, they are useful as poppies in the corn are useful, to show where the soil is poorest, to flaunt a brilliant scarlet, and perish almost as soon as plucked. Presuming that we have, at least, to our own satisfaction, confounded the Pope and the cynic, there yet remains the wife to conciliate. And wives, as we most of us know, have distinct opinions, or, shall we say prejudices, on the subject of Freemasonry.

To make the matter clear let us take a case from the middle ranks of life. Tom Robinson, the supposititious Tom, is a young man of fair ability, a good digestion and a nice little business, what might be called, indeed, a going concern. In process of time Tom marries a charming girl—all girls are charming, it is a mere question of degree—and, for a while, Tom is as happy as the days are long. The little wife is a matron sure enough, but as surely the local tradesman and the polite omnibus conductor insist on addressing Madam as Miss. This natural error is duly reported to Tom, who is as proud of the mistake as the little wife herself—prouder he cannot be. Time goes on, and presently a little Tom makes his appearance, a fragile curly headed lump of humanity, that somehow lightens up Tom's heart whenever he looks that way, late at night or early in the morning, or, best of all, on Sundays. Presently the little wife gives Tom a miniature of herself in the shape of the most preternaturally beautiful little girl child that was ever seen in the wide, wide world. Now, Tom is the father of two children, the husband of a little wife, a little wife broadened out about the shoulders, and with just a line or two in her dear forehead, but not a whit less handsome in Tom's eyes than when long ago they two made love under the trees in the green summer time. Besides the little wife and the children, Tom has a going concern in the shape of a business, which thrift adds to year by year, and altogether Tom is in a good way, as many are at this present time, thank God! It so happens that among Tom's friends is one who, small blame to him, sees in Tom the very man for a Freemason—a sober, steady, kind hearted fellow, honest to the backbone, and withal fond of eating and drinking, and of the little wife at home. How the friend managed it, without asking Tom outright, will never be known—that is a secret as profound as the identity of the man with the Iron Mask, or the place where the cheap champagne comes from—but the friend did, somehow or other, have an influence over Tom, who in due course became a Mason.

At first the little wife, as she lay beside Tom in their nice white bed, had her misgivings that this new fancy might lead Tom away from his home, where they had all been so happy together, might take him into strange company, even bad company. So the little wife now and again moistened her pillow with tears, all the while that Tom, big and broad of shoulder, slept calmly and peacefully, dreaming of a white kid apron, trimmed with blue silk, filling itself with golden sovereigns and levitating towards the *girls' school*, as a handsome donation from Tom himself. Nor were the waking hours of the little wife quite free from care, for while Tom was busy with the books of the going concern—she, left at home, somewhat solitarily, as the way with Englishwomen is, could not hide from herself that a secret was hidden from her, and that she had not all Tom's heart, as she was wont to have. It happened, moreover, as time went on, that love itself changed, that Tom was even a little less attentive, apparently somewhat less fond than in the times the little wife could remember so well, when Tom's knock at the door, and his tread on the stairs, had set her own foolish little heart all of a flutter. This, likewise, which was no more than growth and use, was set down to Freemasonry.

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And let us for a moment pause to say that, in spite of the poets, human love does change, that married love and single love do differ in degree as much as the orange blossom, white and pink with the scent of the morning, differs from the golden orange of the ripening autumn. Many a little wife is wrecked on this reef, because she cannot understand that staid Tom, with the bars of white in his curly black head, who even now would die to save her from harm—is a different lover from that Tom who begged for a kiss in the days that will never come back again. The little wife, however, of whom we write, being a sensible little woman, soon saw that Freemasonry, in spite of its secret, and its occasional evening from home, made Tom not a worse but a better man. She grew, day by day, to see how the circle of his sympathies enlarged. How, looking on his own children, his heart turned to the helpless ones left in the cold world when less fortunate brethren died. She saw him kind to dumb beasts, courteous to servants, generous and considerate towards herself, and although she never knew, and never could know how much he owed to Freemasonry, she felt that the Order could not be an evil which left her so much she loved and valued. It is the misfortune of the fancy which dictates these lines that it must for ever only hover about the confines of the subject. It is the fate of Freemasonry that it must be suspect; but little wives, if they will, may take it from us that whilst they remain charming as they are, and true as they are, the Freemason will always be happiest at Home.

FREEMASONRY IN ROME.

WHILE the Church of Rome is doing all in its power to discountenance our Order, a Masonic Temple has just reared its head within the precincts of the sacred city itself. Our readers will doubtless remember that in an early number we announced that a new Temple of the Craft would shortly be opened in Rome, and on Friday of last week the memorable event passed off with all the success which the most devoted members of the brotherhood could desire. The brethren mustered in very considerable force, there being upwards of 200 present at the ceremonial, the one source of regret being that Bro. General Garibaldi, who has fought so earnestly for freedom in his native country, was unable to be present owing to an unusually sharp and severe attack of rheumatism. His son, Menotti, was there to represent him. The order of procession was first duly arranged by the Master of the Ceremonies, the brethren of the several degrees being marshalled in the order of their juniority, the first degree leading, followed by those of the second and third, and of the higher degrees. Then came the representatives of foreign Lodges and the Grand Master, surrounded by the various dignitaries of the Grand Orient of Italy. The procession having passed through the several halls, at length reached the gates of the Temple itself, which were thrown open after the usual tokens of recognition, and the ceremonial proceeded. Then the Grand Orator, Bro. M. Macchi, delivered a long, powerful, and impressive address, in the course of which he alluded, in complimentary and graceful terms, to the presence of representatives of foreign Lodges, and especially of Great Britain, an allusion as gracefully acknowledged in Italian by Bro. Lieutenant Col. B. Ramsay. At length the ceremony was brought to a close amid general congratulations, supplemented, as the day proceeded, by complimentary telegrams from other provinces in Italy and from different foreign Lodges. The day following was specially devoted to a *conversazione* and musical entertainment appropriate to the occasion, the cantata specially composed by Bro. Swicher being rendered, both vocally and instrumentally, with great effect. Another Lodge meeting had been previously held at 2 p.m., at which again the most cordial congratulations were interchanged. The appearance of the Temple, the elegance of its design and decoration every where apparent, were the theme of general laudation, and when the day closed, but one feeling prevailed that the Inauguration Ceremonial had proved to be a grand success. Such is the answering echo of Italian Masonry to the thunders of the Vatican. And with every respect for the religious convictions of our Roman Catholic brethren, we echo most cordially, In all lands and in all ages, so mote it be!

BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The regular meeting of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution was held on Wednesday, the 10th instant, Bro. Major Creaton P.G.D. in the chair. Bro. Jas. Terry read the minutes, which were confirmed. A letter was read from the Marquis of Ripon, the late Grand Master, tendering his resignation as Trustee of the three funds belonging to the Institution, which was accepted. Bro. J. Stevens proposed that the Pro. Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon, be invited to accept the Trusteeship of the Male and Widows' Funds, and Lord Skelmersdale that of the Sustentation Fund. The death of three annuitants was announced, as also that of an approved candidate (Mrs. Harris). The Reports of the House Committee and Wardens were read. Major Creaton proposed, and Bro. Farnfield seconded, that an Honorary V.P. of this Institution be offered for the acceptance of Dr. H. J. Strong, the Hon. Surgeon of this Institution at Croydon, for his unremitting care and attention to the residents for the past eleven years; which was carried with acclamation. A letter was read from the Rev. J. N. Palmer, offering suggestions as to an improved system of voting at the elections, which was not entertained by the Committee. Permission was granted to an inmate to retire from the Institution on account of ill-health. The Chairman announced the death of Bro. W. P. Scott P.G.D., one of the Committee, and a member of the Finance Committee also, which was received with great regret, and a letter of condolence was directed to be sent to the widow. There were present Bros. J. Hogg P.G.D., B. Head P.G.D., R. Spencer V.P., H. Pullen P.G.S.B., T. Cubitt G.P. C. A. Cottebrune P.G.P., J. M. Stedwell V.P., J. Constable V.P., H. M. Levy, J. G. Stevens, J. Bellerby, J. Newton, W. Stephens, F. Adlard, L. Stean, C. F. Hogard, W. Hale, J. A. Farnfield, G. Smith.

In Memoriam.

Bro. Samuel Weatherill, whose exertions on behalf of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution we noticed some weeks since, and whose death has recently occurred, was initiated in the British Oak Lodge, No. 831, on the 29th June 1868, and continued a member thereof until it ceased in 1874. He joined the Duke of Edinburgh Lodge, No. 1259, as one of the founders, on the 22nd March 1869, and was a member of it until his decease, having filled the chair in 1873-4, and being presented with a very handsome silver snuff-box on his retiring from that position. Bro. Wetherill was a very painstaking, conscientious member of the Order, always doing good, and inducing others to do so. He was a Steward at the last Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and brought in a list of £165. No doubt, had he been blessed with good health, this would have been considerably increased. He died on the 1st March, and was buried at Bow Cemetery on Saturday last, being followed to the grave by a great number of brethren, who wished to testify their regard for his memory by paying the last sad tribute of respect to departed merit. Bro. Weatherill leaves behind him a widow and large family. It only remains for us to add the expression of our personal regret that one who was so actively engaged in promoting the charitable objects of the Craft should have been thus called away in the full vigour of his active beneficence. It is at least a consolation to know that it had been our good fortune, even thus early in our career, to have offered him our hearty congratulations on his successful stewardship at the last festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

THE RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE.

The Roman Eagle Conclave, No. 6, met at Anderton's Hotel on the 27th ult., under the presidency of Sir Knight W. Hurlstone M.P.S. During the evening Bro. Walter Spencer was installed as a Red Cross Knight, and subsequently received the grade of Eusebius, in company with Sir Knight A. Perrot, the elected Viceroy. Sir Knight W. Cubitt Lucey M.D. was inducted into the Chair of Constantine, and appointed his officers for the ensuing year. Amongst the members present were Sir Knights W. F. N. Quilty P.S. and Treasurer, H. C. Levander M.A. P.S. and G.H.C., R. Wentworth Little G. Treasurer, A. A. Pendlebury K.G. C.R., A. C. Morton, J. J. Caney, Rev. W. B. Church P.S. G.H.P., A. Smith and G. Smith. Sir Knight T. Cubitt G.O. was the only visitor. A banquet followed the business in Conclave, and after the cloth was cleared a Past Sovereign's Jewel was presented to Sir Knight Hurlstone, who suitably acknowledged the gift.

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REVIEWS.

All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, 67 Barbican, E.C.

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The Aerial World: A Popular account of the Phenomena and Life of the Atmosphere. By G. Hartwig, M. and P. D., author of "The Sea and its Living Wonders," "The Tropical World," "The Polar World," and "The Subterranean World." With 8 Chromoxylographic plates, a Map and numerous Woodcuts. London: Longmans, Green and Co., 1874.

Dr. HARTWIG will shortly be, if indeed he be not already, in the position of Alexander the Great, when the latter wept that no more worlds remained for him to conquer. In the course of his scientific investigations, the learned Doctor has overrun more worlds than the famous Macedonian Conqueror. He has explored, in a literary, if not a literal sense, the Sea and its Wonders. Though we are only on the eve of sending forth a new Arctic expedition for the purpose of ascertaining, if possible, the whereabouts of the North Pole, Dr. Hartwig has travelled thither before us, and has published an account of its wonders. He has taken us to the region of the Tropics. Nor has he omitted to acquaint us with all the wonderful secrets of the subterranean World. And now in the volume before us he writes most fully of the phenomena of the Aerial World, of the various kinds of air currents, of dews, of fogs and mists, of clouds, rain, hail, of aerial life, and last, but not least, of aerial navigation, as ballooning is popularly called. What other worlds there are for him still to write about, we should find it somewhat difficult to state. But the man of science will doubtless prove superior to the Macedonian madman, and find yet other spheres to enlighten us about. This, however, is a question that needs no present discussion. The *Aerial World* is before us, demanding our attention for the moment, and we may at once inform our readers that a more agreeable task has never before devolved upon us. We have read the work—we will not say throughout, but the greater part of it—with very great pleasure, and we feel convinced that our readers will be as delighted as we have been with this highly popular account of the atmosphere. The work is, as indeed are all the works by this author, a very voluminous one. It is, in fact, no light matter to read through the five hundred and odd pages of which it consists. But the style is admirable. As for information, it far surpasses previous books that have appeared on this subject. It comprises indeed quite a cyclopædia of knowledge, derived from all the most authentic sources. The published experiences of the greatest and most observant travellers have been ransacked in order that as much as possible of established fact should be placed before the reader. Nor have these researches been in vain, the result being, as we have just remarked, a singularly agreeable volume, which we commend unreservedly to the notice of our readers.

That so many voluminous works should have emanated from a single writer, seems almost incredible. Any one who has tried his hand at scientific investigation, even to a very limited extent, must be aware of the amount of patience and labour that are required, in order to produce any thing at all respectable in the way of results. All the more creditable is it that Dr. Hartwig has achieved such success in every one of his works. The purpose of the present volume is briefly stated by its author, in his very modest preface, to have been "to point out the manifold relations between the aerial ocean and man; and to describe the life of which it is the ever busy scene." A few extracts will serve to illustrate the manner in which Dr. Hartwig has carried out his self-imposed task. Thus, in the chapter on the Winds, we find the following description of the Bora, a sharp, dry, cold, north-east wind, which is common on the coasts of the Adriatic and Black Seas.

"Its name is beyond all doubt derived from the Greek Boreas. The hurricane of the tropics is hardly more terrible than the Bora on the eastern coast of the Black Sea, where it raves with particularly destructive fury at Nowo Rossisk, a newly-founded Russian establishment at the head of a bay of the same name. This town, the site of which seems to have been very unluckily chosen, is situated with its two forts on the south-western coast of the bay. When the Bora blows with all its fury, the sentinels conceal themselves behind the breastworks; no signal can possibly be heard in the fort; no fire will burn, and whoever is surprised by the Bora on any open place is obliged to yield to its resistless force, and thrown down upon the ground. When the Bora rages in winter, the clothes wetted by the spray, which reaches the most distant houses, are in a few minutes frozen stiff upon the body, and sharp icicles are flung into the face and make it bleed. When the cold is very severe, the water drifted by the wind forms an ice-crust on the sides and decks of the ships, which, from the constant increase of weight, eventually sink to the bottom, as it is utterly impossible to take any measures for their safety."

A case is mentioned of a division of the Austrian army being overtaken by the Bora near Prewald when on its retreat from Italy in 1805, and suffering heavy losses in men from the soldiers being unable to march; and a little later on we are told that Professor M. Schön found that in January 1871 "loaded military waggons of a total weight of ten tons were alone able to maintain their balance against the assaults of this tremendous wind," while the lighter passenger cars were so fearfully shaken from one side to the other that the alarmed travellers quitted them at the first opportunity. A similar wind is the Mistral which prevails in the South of France, and is popularly regarded as one of the three plagues of Provence—not without reason, for we are told it "blows on an average during seventy-eight days in the year at Toulon, eighty-four at Marseilles, eighty-five at Arles, eighty-eight at Aix, and ninety in the valley of the Durance."

Still more terrible is the Simoon of the desert, on whose approach "the crystal transparency of the sky is veiled with a hazy dimness, occasioned by the sand of the desert whirling at a distance in the agitated atmosphere, but as yet no wind is felt. The camels, however, are conscious of its approach. They become restless and anxious, and appear overcome by fatigue. And a light hot wind arises, blowing in intermittent gusts, like the laborious breathing of a feverish patient. Gradually the pantings of the storm grow more violent and frequent; and, although the sun is unable to pierce the thick dust clouds, and the shadow of the traveller is scarcely visible upon the ground, yet so suffocating is the heat refracted by the glowing sand, that it seems as if the fiercest rays of the sun were scorching his brain.

"The fiery purple of the atmosphere gradually changes to a leaden blackness; the wind becomes constant; the camels, snorting and groaning, stretch out their necks flat upon the ground, and turn their backs to the raging sandstorm. The travellers of the caravan pile up their water-bags, so as to screen them as much as possible from the thirsty breath of the Simoon, and wrapping themselves up in their cloaks, seek a shelter behind chests or bales of merchandise."

The sufferings of the traveller are described as intolerable. "His lips spring open and begin to bleed; his tongue vainly longs for a refreshing draught; and together with a raging thirst, an insupportable itching and heaving invades the whole body, for the skin bursts in a hundred places, and the fine irritating dust penetrates into every wound." Following this is a description of M. Arminius Vambéry's experience of such a sandstorm, which overtook him in the desert between Khiva and Bokhara. It is too long, however, for quotation, nor can we do more than refer to the Harmattan, which prevails on the coast of Guinea, the Sirocco, and the Föhn, an Alpine wind.

On the subject of waterspouts and landspouts, of thunder and lightning, of hailstones, of the mirage, and all other phenomena connected with the atmosphere, the reader will find abundant matter to interest him. But, perhaps, the closing portion of the work in which are treated the balloon, and its use in war and for scientific purposes will prove quite as entertaining. There is, in fact, so much in the compass of this single volume that is worth studying that it were a matter of the greatest difficulty to select any section of it which would not amply repay the reader for the time he may devote to its study. We have given evidence, in the case of a single chapter, of the kind of matter to be found in these pages. More than this we cannot do. There is little fear of Dr. Hartwig being disappointed in his hope that "after a perusal of its contents the reader should find his interest in the great pages of nature more keenly awakened than it will have previously been," or that he may have reason to regret the time and labour he has bestowed on the composition of his book.

Masonic Annual for the Province of Durham, Compiled and published by Bro. James H. Coates P.M. 949, &c., 24 Holmeside, Sunderland.

THIS seems to be a useful guide, and may serve as a pattern to be adopted by Masonic compilers and publishers in other provinces. With its assistance little time need be spent in searching for any particular Lodge, or for any information relating thereto.

THE LODGE AND ITS LESSONS.—The great increase of Masonic Lodges proves two things, we think, incontestably. The one is, that Freemasonry is, in itself, a want for the age in which we live. It is a remarkable fact that, in this prying and bustling age, in which everything seems to be sacrificed to the dust and dirt and turmoil of public life, an institution so peculiar and unobstructive, so much adverse to open recognition, and so difficult of access, should be popular with all classes of society. And yet the secret of such a want, such appreciation, is, we think, not hard to find. Freemasonry may have its frailties and defects, like everything else that is earthly or human, but Freemasonry has this recommendation—it is a neutral ground for us all—an open platform, on which the most differing and the most distant may happily meet together in peace and goodwill, a little green oasis in this arid wilderness of toil and strife, in which the genial and the friendly, and the tolerant and the true, and the scholar and the statesman, may find alike rest for their bodies and refreshment for their minds. Many of us who day by day are toiling at "the form" or in the counting house, in the senate or in the camp, or are labouring as bread winners, by the energy of our bodies or brains, to cheer and sustain those nearest and dearest to us, can find in Freemasonry many an hour of intellectual improvement, many a season of faithful work, many a pleasant moment of social relaxation. Each new Lodge, then, that we found to-day is meant to be a centre of light, friendship, toleration and charity to its members. From it, we trust, some rays of brightness may fall on our fellow men. And if, alas! it be true that all things here are at the best but ephemeral and transitory, that they fade like the dying flower, and pass like some pageant of the day, yet let us hope that, from the crumbling fragment of many an earthly Lodge, there may emanate a spirit of truth and love and loyalty and benevolence, which shall outlive both the material fabric and the earthly members, and be perpetuated in a happier scene of perfect knowledge, of undimmed light and of eternal love.—*Pomeroy's Democrat.*

Nothing is more unpleasant, both to the individual who suffers from it, and also to others, than foul breath; some people are tormented by this condition. As it most frequently depends on a peculiar state of the stomach, it is best removed by restoring the organ to its natural condition, and this is most readily done by corrective doses of Holloway's Pills. They are most grateful and easy in their operation, and impart tonicity to the mucous membrane, so that the most delicate female, or sickly child, may use them without any fear of the ill effects produced by mercurical and other powerful drugs; they are prepared with the greatest care from vegetable products of rare balsamic properties.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

All Letters must bear the name and address of the Writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.

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THE BENEVOLENT ASPECT OF MASONRY.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Permit me to congratulate you upon your new venture, of the ultimate success of which I have no doubt. The CHRONICLE as a record of Masonic matters is not only an admirable addition to the literature of the Craft, but it will prove in after years an invaluable historic repertory of facts and opinions.

I am glad to find that you are devoting much of your valuable space to the benevolent aspect of Masonry. Charity is the grand object of our noble Order, and although it may be often abused, yet every brother will agree with me that the good done enormously outweighs the evils which unhappily always follow in the track of the benevolent. Many a Mason who has given to an unworthy object is as ready to give again ungrudgingly when asked, as if he had never been imposed upon. Such charity as this, Sir, I regard as akin to the divine. I confess I attach the greatest importance to the practical aspect of the Craft, and I am of opinion that those glorious Charities, the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows, and the Boys' and Girls' Schools, will compare favourably with any of a similar nature in this country. I should be glad if more of the brethren would subscribe towards the support of these noble charities. The payment of the trifling sum of one shilling per week will enable a brother to have a voice in the government of these institutions. He may indeed chance to become a Life Governor, and thus exercise a direct control over the affairs of the charities. The East End of London has, I am happy to say, set the whole Masonic world an example in practical questions of this kind. The brethren in that locality are first and foremost in works of benevolence, and are deserving of the highest praise for their zeal in the cause of the suffering, the friendless, and the afflicted.

I would venture to suggest, Sir, that large additional funds might be obtained for works of benevolence if Lodges exacted a small monthly or quarterly payment from their members. The sums thus obtained might be annually divided between the three charities, or in any other way that the brethren might think best.

I am, dear Sir and brother, yours fraternally,

A PAST MASTER.

BRO. CONSTABLE'S MOTION IN GRAND LODGE.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—It may be presumed it is now generally known that Bro. Constable's motion to obtain a grant of £100 from Grand Lodge, in aid of the Fund about to be raised for the purpose of endowing the "Freemasons' Lifeboat," was lost by a majority of 16. The votes were 115 against 99. But the manner in which the question was negatived may probably not have been so widely disseminated. I therefore venture to think it might probably be interesting to some of your readers, who were not present at the meeting, to be made acquainted with the mode in which this rather important matter was disposed of.

The proposer submitted what he had to say in a pithy, practical speech. Bro. Brakeston Baker P.G.D., who undertook to second the motion, did not seem to enter upon his work very heartily, his few remarks fell flat, and were altogether disappointing. Bro. Fred. Binckes, whose enthusiasm on questions of benevolence is never at fault, vigorously exhorted Grand Lodge to sanction the Grant. Bro. John Havers P.G.S.W., who acknowledged that he generally advocated the unpopular side of a question, opposed, with seeming asperity, calling upon Grand Lodge to negative the motion without a division. The question was however submitted to the meeting, when the show of hands proved decidedly in favour; but before the acting Grand Master had time to ask a show of hands against the motion, Bro. Saml. Tomkins, the justly-esteemed Grand Treasurer, interposed, and in his mild way and voice, strongly opposed the Grant. This irregularity had the effect of alienating a number of brethren who were either previously vacillating, or whose power of judging for themselves is limited, or, at any rate, not sufficiently strong to enable them to resist the influence which persons of position invariably exercise over feeble minds. To permit Bro. Tomkins to address the meeting after the discussion had ended, and the show of hands demanded, was felt to be so glaringly unfair, and indeed so un-English, as to cause expressions of surprise at such an unusual course of proceeding being tolerated in an assembly of Englishmen. It was, however, undeniably the case, and the second show of hands seemed to be divided in equal proportions. A division was demanded, and the scrutineers announced the respective numbers as above stated. There was, however, a more potent cause which brought about the disappointing result. Bro Constable's notice happened to be last upon the agenda, and a considerable number of brethren, who attended for the sole purpose of giving their support, residing some distance from London, had to leave before the discussion commenced. That such was the case may be gathered from the fact, that whereas at the beginning of the meeting the spacious hall, capable of holding upwards of 500 persons, was so crowded that a great many had to find standing room as best they could (for to obtain a seat after Grand Lodge was opened was simply impossible)—even the gangway filling half way up—when the time for voting arrived, only 214, including the Grand Officers, remained. And here I will note the almost incredible fact that all the Grand Officers, past and present, with scarcely an exception, eagerly voted with the opposition. Even Bro. Baker, who seconded the motion, divided against it, because forsooth Bro. Binckes, with the concurrence of the proposer, amended the original proposition, to the effect that the Grant should be contingent upon the rest of the required sum being obtained. The childishness of such a course will scarcely be disputed. The sanction for the Grant, under any circumstances and conditions, is what was sought to be obtained, as the support of Grand Lodge could not fail to give stimulus to the movement, and, possibly, have the effect of inducing brethren of position and influence to take the matter in hand, and eventually bring it to a successful issue. It may be asked, why this exhibition of hostility on the part of the Grand Officers upon so trival a matter as the grant of £100 towards an unquestionably beneficent object? The only explanation that suggests itself is, that, as the proposition did not emanate from the Dais, therefore it should not be entertained. The solitary argument against it, used by all the opponents, "that it was impolitic for Grand Lodge to apply its funds for purposes outside the Craft," is so utterly feeble and fallacious that to state is to refute it. Have not these funds, within recent years, been applied—and properly and usefully so—to render assistance to the helpless and needy, entirely irrespective of any connection with the Order? During the recent troubles in India, £500 was granted, and after the Crimean War £4,000 was voted to the Patriotic Fund. I forget the amount sent to Paris after the siege, but I dare say many brethren will be able to call to mind instances in which similar grants were freely voted. Then, why this show of unfriendly feeling when it becomes a question of affording some slight aid to the noble life-saving institution? It is hard to understand the lack of popularity under which that Institution suffers in nautical England. It cannot be asserted, with any approach to truth, that people generally show any particular care for its progress, or go out of their way to promote its prosperity. It was asserted openly, and, I think, ignorantly, in Grand Lodge, that the Institution has ample means at command to support all their Lifeboats, whilst privately it was foolishly suggested that the burden of maintaining these boats should be borne by the wealthy body of ship owners. Let us hope that neither such arguments as these, nor the temporary repulse in Grand Lodge, will deter the promoters from continuing their exertions, until the end in view is attained. The question of the grant will, no doubt, before long be again submitted. Should such be the case, it is to be hoped it may not be placed the last on the agenda; that it may be fairly tested. In the meantime, those who desire success should exert their influence to enlist the sympathies of friends, and work with hearty goodwill to accomplish the task. It is a truly Masonic object; for what are even the worst agonies, or sufferings, or privations on terra firma, when compared with the despair of poor wretches, clinging to the frailest of supports, half maddened from hunger and exposure, surrounded by death in its most frightful aspect, anxiously watching for help from the shore, and, but too often, watching and waiting in vain. And how much less chance of rescue would exist were mankind to act upon the principle of the "circumlocution office," and wait until the precise persons are found whose duty it is to provide for these casualties, and who, having the power, are willing to do it. The Lifeboat Institution has done, and is continually doing, a great amount of service to humanity, deriving its means for support from comparatively few individuals, and fewer corporate bodies. It is certainly not creditable that the Masonic Craft does not stand first upon the list of its supporters.

Yours fraternally, E. GOTTHEIL.

ASSISTANCE TO MASONIC CHARITIES.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

8th March 1875.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I read E. Gottheil's letter in your last issue, from which it appears he would convey to your readers that the weekly subscription movement for purchasing Life Governorships for Masonic Charities emanated from Bro. Constable.

While giving that brother credit for his zeal in the Charities, I consider that due praise should be given to Bro. Terry and others, who started the movement, by which it will be seen that Bro. Clark is only doing that which Bro. Constable did before him, follow the footsteps of good men and true.

Yours fraternally,

A LOVER OF FAIR PLAY.

THE CHEVALIER RAMSAY AND FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—At page 151 of your issue for 6th March, there appears an account of the connection the Chevalier Ramsay is stated to have had with Freemasonry. We are informed that he invented certain new degrees, and that "he even had the audacity to propose, in 1728, to the Grand Lodge of England, to substitute them for the three primitive degrees of symbolical Masonry, a proposition which met with no more success than it deserved." Now I hardly know how it is, but a feeling has existed in my mind, for years back, that Ramsay was getting more credit in the Masonic way than he deserved. Although I have often seen statements about him similar to the above, I do not remember of ever seeing proper and substantial evidence brought forward in support of these statements. Perhaps, however, either you, Mr. Editor (or Bro. Editor I suppose I should say), or some of your correspondents, will be able to enlighten me upon this matter, and, firstly, in regard to this 1728 proposition to the Grand Lodge of England, I would wish to know

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if any veritable documentary evidence, bearing upon this subject, is still extant in the archives of the Grand Lodge of England? Hoping to receive "more light,"

I am, fraternally yours,

Glasgow, 6th March. W. P. BUCHAN.

THE STRONG MAN LODGE.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR,—In your article, on "Athleticism and Masonry," you speak of the meetings of the Strong Man Lodge being held at the "Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell." They were held there till about five months since, but the locality, I believe, has since been changed. I cannot supplement this correction by stating its present whereabouts, but possibly some member will be able to furnish you with this information. Yours fraternally, Z.

[We obtained our information on this point from the *Cosmopolitan Masonic Calendar, Diary, and Pocket Book for* 1875, wherein we read "45 Strong Man—Old Jerusalem Tav. St. John's Gate, 1st Thurs." We have since noticed among "Lodges of Instruction" (p. 96) the following entry "45 Strong Man—Crown Tav. Clerkenwell Green, Mon. 8." We cannot further account for the error into which we were unintentionally led.—Editor FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.]

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All Letters and communications must be addressed to the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, 67 *Barbican, London, E.C.*

G. R. D.—A matter of opinion; it was discussed, and decided against you.

A. K. H., Hadleigh.—(a) Will P.M.'s, W.M.'s and Wardens be admitted to ceremony of Installation of the Prince of Wales? *Ans.* Yes. (b) Is it necessary to procure tickets of admission, if so, where and how can they be obtained? *Ans.* You will find the needful information elsewhere in our columns. (c) Will Past Provincial Grand Officers be allowed to wear *Purple*? (c) Yes; but they must wear a Blue Collar over.

MASONIC ART.

By Mason's art religious domes appear, where the Almighty Architect is worshipped in spirit and truth.

By Mason's art the avaricious miser opens his iron-bound breast, and feels compassion's tender warmth.

By Mason's art the injurious and unruly tongue falls down before the throne of awful silence, and readily submits to her commands.

By Mason's art the wings of loose desire are clipped, and the lascivious mind refrained from all immodest and unlawful bents.

By Mason's art the pussy fop (mankind's disgrace) rejects a vain and gaudy outside and gladly accepts of more valuable and permanent furniture within.

By Mason's art ensigns of state and princely ornaments (the nursery of pride, where ambition keeps her lofty seat), as useless toys by free born sons, meet with disdain, since they can boast of a more lasting glory who are

Enrolled by the name they bear,
Distinguished by the badge they wear.

By Mason's art impartial justice her equal balance holds, and fraud oppressive owns her gentle sway.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY NEWS.

FRIDAY.

After the publication of the annual weekly return of the Bank of England yesterday, the markets recovered a little, and gave promise of returning animation. We have no change to record in the Bank minimum, and the rates for carrying forward at the settlement have been easy, and the tone generally is firm. News of the formation of a new Ministry in France is calculated to inspire more confidence, and to encourage better prices in certain dealings, so that, with the release of the dividends on the funds to be looked for very shortly, it may be hoped that there will be more inducement for speculative and investment purchases as the spring advances. One of the most fruitful topics of discussion at the present moment, is that relating to the action taken by the English bankers to exclude Scotch banks from setting up establishments in competition in this country. The question has been a cause of considerable agitation for a long time, and it has now found its way to the House of Commons. A Bill has been introduced, under the auspices of Mr. Goschen, which proposes to give the redress so earnestly sought for. It imposes, in so many words, fresh restrictions on both English and Scotch banks, and introduces a principle which would, if generally applied, restrict Irish, Indian, Colonial and Foreign banks from attempting to carry on banking business in England. There can, therefore, be no doubt that very large issues are involved. Whether convenient or not, Parliament must submit to long discussions this Session before they can get rid of such a bill. The Board of Trade returns for February have been published, and show a great falling off in imports and exports as compared with the corresponding month in 1874. In exports the total value given for the month is £17,467,256 against £18,228,803, or a decrease of 4½ per cent.; as regards imports for the same period the figures are £25,925,518 compared with £31,350,778 last year. A principal cause of the falling off in the imports is again the diminished import of wheat, which shows a total value of £1,217,764 for the month against £2,382,871 in 1874, or a decrease of 49 per cent. while the reduction in quantity amounted to 34 per cent. * * * In the House of Commons the other evening, Mr. Paleston asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer a question in reference to a statement alluding to a deficiency of 4½ millions incurred by the National Debt Commissioners in their account with the trustees of the Savings Banks and Friendly Societies. The Chancellor of the Exchequer stated that it was a fact that the account between the National Debt Commissioners and the trustees of Savings Banks and Friendly Societies, showed a deficiency to the amount referred to. This deficiency arose from the rate given to depositors being higher than the Commissioners could get from the investments then open to them. Now, however, a lower rate was given to depositors. The deficiency, which had been going on accumulating for some years, would shortly engage the attention of Parliament in connexion with some matters referring to the National Debt which the Government intended to bring under the notice of the House.

The English Funds have been weaker, and the latest returns show that business has been done at slightly lower rates.

The Foreign Market has been looking up since the news arrived of the new Cabinet just elected in France. Some dealings are reported in Russian, Hungarian, and Italian Bonds, and the future of others is moderately hopeful.

The department for English railways is by no means slack, and some very encouraging remarks have lately appeared in the *Times* on the prospects of this description of property.

Miscellaneous shares are moderately firm, Imperial Ottoman Bank and Hudson's Bay attracting some attention, while American and Canadian securities remain without change.

The Budget will, it seems, be brought forward on the 15th of next month. A proposal that incomes under £300 should not be called upon to pay income tax, has been defeated by a large majority in the House this week.

The directors of the MASONIC Savings and Loan Bank of San Francisco, at a meeting held on the 18th January, declared a dividend at the rate of 9½ per cent. per annum on "Term" deposits, and 7½ per cent. per annum on "Ordinary" deposits.

It is announced, from Berne, that the International Postal Treaty has been ratified between Great Britain and the United States.

At a special meeting of the shareholders of the Brighton and South Coast Railway this week, the proposal to divide the ordinary stock into preferred and deferred forms on the terms suggested by the directors, viz., that the option of changing into the new forms be confined to the first half of the financial year, was passed by a large majority.

The following statement shows the receipts for traffic on the undermentioned railways for the past week, as compared with the corresponding week in 1874:—

Railway.	Miles open. 1875	Receipts. 1875 £	Receipts. 1874 £
Caledonian	737	———	———
Glasgow and South Western	315½	14,488	15,321
Great Eastern	763	44,163	44,892
Great Northern	517	49,892	47,744
Great Western	1,525	87,086	97,077
Lancashire and Yorkshire	430	60,587	60,408
London and Brighton	376	21,443	22,302
London, Chatham and Dover	153½	13,388	13,008
London and North Western	1,582½	155,981	159,161
London and South Western	—	26,766	28,956
London, Tilbury and Southend	45	———	———
Manchester and Sheffield	259½	30,279	28,511
Midland	949½	106,950	101,203
Metropolitan	8	8,868	8,462
" " District	8	4,863	4,212
" " St. John's Wood	1¼	449	442
North British	839	38,034	37,355
North Eastern	1,379	118,961	118,872
North London	12	6,574	6,719
North Staffordshire Railway	190	10,351	10,242
" " Canal	118	1,715	1,810
South Eastern	350	28,840	30,296

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THE DRAMA.

THE approach of Easter is heralded by the announcement of several novelties in the theatrical world, though none of them are of a very startling character. Foremost in importance, as to time, comes Mr. Hare's venture at the COURT, the opening performance of which is fixed for to-night. Mr. Hare is a general favourite with the public, and he has, moreover, secured an excellent staff of artistes to co-operate with him. Mr. and Mrs. Kendal, Miss Amy Fawsitt, Mr. John Clayton, Miss Hughes, Miss Hollingshead and Messrs. Cathcart, Kelly and Kemble, form together an exceptionably strong company for performance of comedy, and Mr. Hare is to be congratulated on having secured their services. The opening programme comprises an original four-act comedy by Mr. Charles F. Coghlan, entitled *Lady Flora*, and a comedietta, entitled *Short and Sweet*. Commencing under such excellent auspices, his success can scarcely be doubted.

The novelty promised at the PRINCE OF WALES'S is the long-talked-of revival of the *Merchant of Venice*. It is now reported that Miss Carlotta Addison, and not Mrs. Bancroft, will play Nerissa, and that Miss Augusta Wilton will be cast for Jessica. The Bassanio, we understand, is to be Mr. E. H. Brooke, late of the Liverpool Alexandra Theatre. Every one interested in the fortunes of this theatre—and their name is legion—will anxiously await this interesting production.

Mr. Horace Wigan is, it is believed, about to resume the reins of theatrical management at the HOLBORN. This theatre has not been generally a prosperous speculation, but it certainly succeeded with the *Flying Scud*, and we see no reason at all why, with proper management, it may not be made to pay again. Melodrama is, we understand, to be the staple attraction, and a strong company is to be engaged to play it.

Melodrama, by the way, appears to have been gaining in the favour of the public for some time past, probably owing to the very natural reaction from the dreary absurdities of French opera bouffe. *The Two Orphans* was the greatest success of last year, and is still one of the chief attractions of the season. On Monday last it completed its 150th night of continuous performance. *The New Magdalen* too, successful last year at the OLYMPIC, has this year been successfully revived at the CHARING CROSS, whilst the ever green *Arrah-na-Pogue* is now drawing excellent houses at the SURREY, and another version of *The Two Orphans* achieving a like success at the MARYLEBONE THEATRE.

COLONEL CORDOVA'S ENTERTAINMENT.

In the gallery in Tichborne Street, formerly known as Dr. Kahn's Museum, an entertainment is now being given by Colonel Cordova, of a varied nature, comprising legerdemain in its very familiar form, "manifestations" after the fashion of spiritual *séances*, the so-called "spirit flight," the escape from the corded box, and ventriloquism. The "manifestations," in which Miss Dollie Dumas is the active agent, are inexplicable. It is not claimed for Miss Dumas that she receives any assistance; yet the various features of the spiritualistic representations are perfectly reproduced, while of the real cleverness of the illusion there can be no doubt. Miss Dumas occupies an isolated position, and these manifestations must be the work of her own hands. How she manages to free herself from, and re-engage herself in the bands, we cannot attempt to solve. Miss Nella Davenport makes her magical escape from the locked and corded box, and also gives a representation of what is termed "spirit reading." The tricks in general are decidedly clever, and the whole entertainment is calculated to inspire wonder and admiration. It must be understood that the deceptions throughout are attributed to mechanical agency, both Miss Dumas and Miss Davenport being termed "anti-spirit" mediums.

BALL AT THE MANSION HOUSE.

On Thursday evening the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress gave a grand ball. The company, nearly a thousand in number, included many of the Aldermen, the whole of the Court of Common Council, with members of their families; several of the Deputy Commissioners of Lieutenancy of the City of London, Masters of the Livery Companies, officers of the Honourable Artillery Company, and many of the principal citizens besides. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress received the company in the saloon, which was charmingly decorated and lighted for the occasion, and dancing began about ten o'clock in the Egyptian Hall to the spirited music of the Coldstream Guards band, conducted, as usual, by Mr. Fred. Godfrey. The magnificent banners of many of the civic guilds were suspended from or grouped about the pillars of the Egyptian Hall, producing an agreeable effect. Dancing was maintained with great spirit until midnight, when supper was served in various parts of the house simultaneously. At its conclusion the greater part of the guests took their departure, but many of the younger portion of them remained to resume dancing, which was kept up with unflagging zeal into the small hours of the morning. Altogether the occasion was a very enjoyable one, and will, no doubt, be pleasantly remembered as an agreeable episode in the mayoralty of Alderman Stone.

CLUB HOUSE PLAYING CARDS.—Mogul Quality, picket 1s 3d per pack, 14s per dozen packs. Do. seconds 1s per pack, 11s per dozen packs. If by post 1½d per pack extra. Cards for Piquet, Bézique, Écarté, &c., Mogul Quality 1od per pack, 9s per dozen packs.—London: W. W. Morgan, 27 Barbican, E.C.

THE MASTER OF A LODGE.

"FROM MACKEY'S LEXICON OF FREEMASONRY."

THE Presiding Officer in a blue or symbolic Lodge is called "the Worshipful Master." In the French Lodges he is styled "*Le Vénérable*," when the Lodge is opened in the first or second degree, and "*Le très Vénérable*," when in the third. The power of a Master in his Lodge is absolute. He is the supreme arbiter of all questions of order, so far as the meeting is concerned, nor can any appeal be made from his decision to that of the Lodge. He is amenable for his conduct to the Grand Lodge alone, and to that body must every complaint against him be made. For no misdemeanour, however great, can he tried by his Lodge; for, as no one has a right to preside there in his presence except himself, it would be absurd to suppose that he could sit as the judge in his own case. This is the decision that has been made on the subject by every Grand Lodge in the United States which has entertained the question, and it may be now considered as a settled law of Masonry. He is elected annually, but must have previously presided as a Warden, except in the case of a newly constituted Lodge or where every Past Master and Warden, as well as the present Master, have refused to serve, or have died, resigned, or been expelled. He is, with his Wardens, the representative of his Lodge in the Grand Lodge, and is there bound to speak, act, or vote, as the Lodge shall, by resolution, direct him. The right of instruction forms a part of our ancient regulations. He is to be treated with the utmost reverence and respect while in the chair, and his commands must be implicitly obeyed. The ancient charges on this subject are explicit. "You are not to hold private committees, or separate conversation, without leave from the Master, nor to talk of anything impertinent or unseemly, nor interrupt the Master; ***** but to pay due reverence to your Master, Wardens, and Fellows, and put them to worship."

The jewels and furniture of the Lodge are placed under the care of the Master, he being responsible to the Lodge for their safe custody. It is his duty to see that the landmarks of the Order be not infringed, that the regulations of the Grand Lodge and the by-laws of his own Lodge be strictly enforced, that all his officers faithfully perform their duties, and that no ineligible candidate be admitted. He has the right of congregating his Lodge whenever he thinks proper, and of closing it at any time that in his judgment may seem best.

With respect to the removal of the Lodge, the Master possesses peculiar privileges, according to the regulations of the Grand Lodge of England, adopted in 1735. By these no motion for removal of the Lodge can be made during the absence of the Master. But this is a merely local regulation, and does not appear, generally, to have been adopted by the fraternity in America.

Lastly, the Master has particularly the charge of the warrant of constitution, and is empowered to select his Senior Deacon from among the Master Masons of the Lodge.

The Jewel of the Master is a square; because, as the square is employed by operative Masons to fit and adjust the stones of a building, so that all the parts shall properly agree, so the Master of the Lodge is admonished, by the symbolic meaning of the square upon his breast, to preserve that moral deportment among the members which should ever characterize good Masons, so that no ill-feeling or angry discussions may arise to impair the harmony of the meeting.

I cannot better close this article than with the following extract from the writings of Dr. Oliver, in relation to the qualifications of a Master of a Lodge:—"I am decidedly of opinion that much general knowledge is necessary to expand the mind and familiarize it with Masonic discussions and illustrations, before a brother can be pronounced competent to undertake the arduous duty of governing a Lodge. A Master of the work ought to have nothing to learn. He should be fully qualified, not only to instruct the younger brethren, but to resolve the doubts of those who are more advanced in Masonic knowledge; to reconcile apparent contradictions; to settle chronologies, and to elucidate obscure facts or mystic legends, as well as to answer the objections and to render pointless the ridicule of our uninitiated adversaries."

ANCIENT MASONRY.—The principles of Masonry consisted in love, in obedience and in universal charity to the brethren and to mankind. In love, first of all, to the Great Architect of the Universe for all blessings which they enjoyed, and next in exhibiting their gratitude in return for those blessings by showing to their poorer brethren the love which they bore them and the charity which they owed them. . . . There was nobody in the country so loyal as a good Mason. He was loyal to his sovereign, he was loyal and obedient to the laws and to the Craft to which he belonged. If a man was a good Mason they might rely upon it that that man was in every respect also a good citizen. Permit me to say that in the dark days, when civil liberty and religious truth were both endangered by tyranny and superstition, the Lodges of Masonry were the receptacles and protection of both. Tyrants have dreaded Masonry because Masons are the patrons of freedom. Superstition has denounced Masonry because Masonry is the friend and protector of truth.—*Lord Dalhousie.*

TRADITION.—Let no Mason, and therefore no Knight, speak disrespectfully of tradition, for upon it, as a chief corner-stone, is based the solid, ornamental, enduring superstructure of our Order, and their foundation is not built either upon *sand!* Let the Mason rather emulate the faith and wisdom of the learned Apostle Paul, who was deeply versed in the splendid traditions of the Jews, and who, when writing to the Thessalonians, rebuked the sceptical in these words: Therefore, brethren, stand fast and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word or our epistles; and thus clearly announces his belief that, without the support derived from rational and trustworthy tradition, the Church itself could not live and history would be a myth. Blessed, therefore, are the uses of tradition.—*Bro. E. A. Guilbert.*

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THE THEATRES, &c.

DRURY LANE.—This evening, Benefit of Mr. F. B. Chatterton.

HAYMARKET.—A FAIR ENCOUNTER, HOME and THE SERIOUS FAMILY.

ADELPHI.—This evening, at 7.0, THE LANCASHIRE LASS. At 9.0, LOST IN LONDON.

PRINCESS'S.—ROUND THE WORLD IN EIGHTY DAYS.

LYCEUM.—At 6.50, FISH OUT OF WATER. At 7.45, HAMLET.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.0, TWENTY MINUTES WITH A TIGER. AT 7.30, THE TWO ORI'HANS.

STRAND.—At 7.0, INTRIGUE. At 7.30, OLD SAILORS. At 9.15, LOO AND THE PARTY WHO TOOK MISS.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 7.45, SWEETHEARTS and SOCIETY.

GAIETY.—This evening, JOHN BULL.

GLOBE.—LADY AUDLEY'S SECRET and BLUE BEARD.

ROYALTY.—At 7.30, A GOOD NIGHT'S REST. At 8.0, CRYPTOCONCHOIDSYPHONOTOMATA. At 9, LA PERICHOLE.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.0, A WHIRLIGIG. At 7.45, OUR BOYS. At 10, A REGULAR FIX.

CHARING CROSS.—At 7.30, MR. JOFFIN'S LATCH KEY. At 8.15, THE NEW MAGDALEN.

OPERA COMIQUE.—This evening, at 7.0, OPERETTA.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, THE TWO BONNYCASTLES. At 8.0, WHITTINGTON.

CRITERION.—LES PRES SAINT GERVAIS, &c.

COURT.—LADY FLORA.

SURREY.—THE TWO FOLTS, ARRAH-NA-POGUE, and CRUSOE THE SECOND.

PHILHARMONIC.—MARITANA or BOHEMIAN GIRL, &c.

HENGLER'S CIRQUE.—EQUESTRIAN PERFORMANCE, every Evening, at 7.0; every Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.30. Little Sandy's Benefit Monday and Tuesday, 15th and 16th March.

SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE.—TURPIN'S RIDE TO YORK, ALADDIN AND THE WONDERFUL LAMP, &c., every Evening at 7.0, and Monday, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.0.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—This Day, CONCERT, BILLIARD MATCH, &c. On Tuesday, ROAD TO RUIN. Open daily, AQUARIUM, PICTURE GALLERY, &c.

POLYTECHNIC.—STAR WATCHING AND THE TRANSIT OF VENUS; THE MYSTIC SCROLL; CHEMICAL MARVELS; THE ISLE OF WIGHT AND ITS LEGENDS, &c. Open at 12.0 and 7.0.

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EGYPTIAN HALL.—MASKELYNE AND COOKE, at 3.0 and 8.0.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL, Langham Place.—Mr. and Mrs. GERMAN REED at 8.0. Thursday and Saturday at 3 only.

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ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS, AND ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

IN accordance with Resolutions of the respective General Committees, Special General Courts of the Governors and Subscribers will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Lincolns Inn Fields, London, on Monday, the 15th day of March, 1875. To consider the recommendations of a Joint Committee of the two Institutions, specially appointed to inquire into and to report upon the privileges of Stewards at the Anniversary Festivals, and the mode of election of the House and Audit Committees, viz., To erase the 2nd clause of Law 13, also Law 15. To consider the following **Laws** under the heading "Privileges of Stewards" (to follow Law 24), 2nd clause of Law 13 re-enacted. Also the following new law:—Every Steward at the Anniversary Festival, who shall procure Donations or Subscriptions to the extent of not less than Fifty Guineas in addition to his personal Donation, and shall collect and pay over the amount to the Funds of the Institution, shall receive one additional vote at each Election of Boys (and Girls), and a further extra vote for every additional sum of not less than Fifty Guineas so collected and paid over. Also to add to Law 37, providing for mode of Election of House Committee:—Scrutineers shall be appointed for the purpose of taking the poll, which shall remain open until 5 p.m. To elect Two Trustees of the Sustentation Fund of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. The Chair in each case will be taken at Twelve o'Clock at noon precisely.

R. WENTWORTH LITTLE, Sec. R.M.I.G.
FREDERICK BINCKES, Sec. R.M.I.B.

OFFICES—5 AND 6 FREEMASONS' HALL, W.C. 6th March 1875.

THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE
67 BARBICAN, E.C.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

PERHAPS a little more life is noticeable in the most recent proceedings of Parliament. In the House of Lords, on Friday last, the Duke of St. Alban's drew the Lord Chamberlain's attention to sundry anomalies in the management of our theatres and music halls. Certain theatres, for instance, which are under that noble functionary's jurisdiction are closed on Ash Wednesday, whilst others outside his rule are open. The music halls on the Surrey side of the river are allowed to open on that day, while those on the Middlesex side must be closed. The Marquis of Hertford admitted the existence of these anomalies, and explained them, in a certain sense satisfactorily. There are three jurisdictions to which theatres are subject—the Crown as regards the patent theatres, the Lord Chamberlain, and local jurisdiction. Whether it will ever prove injurious to the British Constitution to make these three authorities into one, is, no doubt, a question of the first magnitude constitutionally, and one therefore, with which we do not feel ourselves competent to deal. It would not be amiss, perhaps, to have one law or system for all places of public entertainments, but the age is clearly not ripe as yet for so important a change. There always have been anomalies in this country, and we suppose there always will be. By the time London is ready for the reception of Macaulay's celebrated New Zealander, the incorporation of these separate jurisdictions into one will probably have been entertained, if not settled. What fate would befall Magna Charta and the Bill of Rights if our little systematic irregularities were all of a sudden made smooth we hardly care to inquire; we are convinced it would be something very terrible. On Monday, the resignation, owing to advancing age and infirmities, of Sir John Lefevre, Clerk of the Parliaments, was announced by the Lord Chancellor, and elicited from both sides of the House the warmest feelings of regret. The next announcement from the woolsack created some excitement, being no less than the notice of withdrawal of the Supreme Court of Judicature Act (1873) Amendment Bill. Serious opposition to the further progress of this measure, which involves, or involved, the highly important question whether the Appellate Jurisdiction of the House of Lords should remain or not, was anticipated, and this pressure, which had latterly assumed somewhat serious dimensions, both in and out of Parliament, was deemed reason enough for the Lord Chancellor's conduct. Not unnaturally this action of the Government was somewhat sharply criticised by Lord Selborne and Earl Granville, and the remarks of these noble lords brought up the Duke of Richmond, the Earl of Derby, and the Earl of Malmesbury, so that quite a lively little debate followed. Nor did

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the excitement end here, for the affairs of Spain were brought under the notice of the House by the leader of the opposition, who was anxious to know if the procedure of our Government in recognizing the Government of King Alphonso had been in any way exceptional. The Foreign Secretary explained what had happened, and shortly afterwards the House adjourned. On Tuesday a reaction appears to have set in to the little excitement of the previous way, the subject under discussion being the Increase of Episcopate Bill, which passed through Committee with one important amendment by the Bishop of Exeter. On Thursday the resignation of the Clerk of the Parliaments was again under the notice of the House, the Duke of Richmond moving a resolution to the effect that their lordships deeply regret his resignation, and deem it right to record their sense of the zeal and ability with which Sir John Lefevre had discharged his duties during his 27 years' tenure of office. Lord Selborne seconded it, and it was carried *nem con.* The Duke further moved that an address, accompanied by the letter of resignation and the above resolution, be presented to the Queen with a commendation of Sir John Lefevre to Her Majesty's grace and bounty. The Patents for Inventions Bill afterwards passed through Committee, and, having transacted some further business, the House adjourned.

In the House of Commons the principal question on Friday evening was that of Primary Education in Ireland. Mr. O'Reilly made a motion thereon, which was talked over at some length, chiefly by Irish members and the Irish Secretary; Dr. Lyon Playfair, who sits for one of the Scotch Universities, being the most conspicuous exception. The Government having expressed its views on the subject announcing its intention of dealing with the financial part of the question when the proper time arrived, the motion was at length withdrawn. The House shortly after resolved itself into Committee of Supply, when Mr. Hunt moved the estimate for the new Arctic Expedition—a motion to which the House readily agreed. A number of other votes were subsequently passed, and the House rose. On Monday Sir W. Lawson, who is always an amusing speaker, was anxious that our small military force should be made still smaller, but his proposal found but little support, and on a division was rejected by 224 to 61. Mr. Hardy afterwards introduced the Army Estimates. He was congratulated by several honourable members on the character of his statement, and the votes for the requisite number of men, as well as for their pay and allowances, were passed after a long and somewhat circuitous debate. On Tuesday a motion by Mr. Pease, on the subject of the Durham Capitular Estates, led to a somewhat close division, the hon. gentleman being defeated by the small majority of 17; 120 members endorsing his views, while 137 agreed to differ from them. This narrow difference of opinion was received with the usual demonstration of applause by the opposition, after which Mr. Dixon went lengthily into the New Education Code 1875, moving, by way of amendment, that Article 19 D be omitted. Nothing ensued, however, but a somewhat protracted debate and the withdrawal of the motion. On Wednesday the House had a somewhat irritant dose of Hypothec. Mr. Vans-Agnew's motion for the second reading of this bill was discussed at length, but rejected by 156 to 138, the close result being again highly gratifying, we are informed, to the Opposition. Thursday was almost wholly devoted to the discussion of naval subjects, the most prominent exceptions being a statement by the Premier as to the business of the House, in the course of which he mentioned that the Budget was fixed for the 15th prox., and a motion on the Income Tax by Mr. Sandford, which was considerably rejected. The House afterwards went into Committee of Supply, when Mr. Ward Hunt brought forward the Naval Estimates for the year. Mr. Goschen played the part of chief critic, and the vote of men was subsequently agreed to. The House shortly afterwards adjourned.

The new members for Norwich and St. Ives, Messrs. Tillett (Liberal) and Praed (Conservative) have taken their seats, and a Commission of Inquiry into certain corrupt practices which are reported by Judge Grove to have prevailed at the last election for Boston has been appointed on the motion of the Attorney-General, the members being Æn. J. M'Intyre, Q.C., and two other gentlemen of the long robe, Messrs. Slade and Douglas Straight. It is not often we have to chronicle the intrusion into the body of the House of two strangers, but such an event happened on Monday evening. Two gentlemen entered, quite unobserved, and took their seats on the second opposition bench, even the lynx-eyed janitor of the House, a policeman said to be acquainted with the personal appearance of every member, being himself deceived. The first to make the discovery was Lord Eslington, one of the tellers on Mr. Pease's motion, who at once handed them over to the tender charge of the Serjeant-at-Arms. The intruders thereupon found themselves in 'durance vile' for a brief space, when having been lectured on the enormity of their offence, and having expressed the greatest contrition, they were permitted to leave. They had, it seems, gone armed with an order for admission to the Strangers' Gallery and mistaken their way.

The sum realised for the Cospatrick Relief Fund is reported to be £3,050, after the deduction of the necessary expenses. Of this amount £2,700 has been already distributed: the orphan daughters of Captain Elmslie receiving £500, the relatives of the crew £865, the remainder being awarded to the relatives of the passengers. There thus remains still in hand, to meet any emergencies, a sum of £350.

The gale on Monday night and Tuesday morning appears to have been very disastrous to life and property, especially among the shipping. Two men engaged in the demolition of a goods shed, at the Carlisle Station of the Caledonia Railway, were killed by the fall of a portion of the brickwork, two others very severely, and two slightly injured. Several other accidents along the east coast are reported, in one of which the Berwick Life Boat succeeded in rescuing two lives—the crew of a sloop in distress, which afterwards became a perfect wreck.

Two deputations have lately waited on Lord Henry Lennox, Her Majesty's First Commissioner of Works, the object of one being to bring before his lordship the neglected condition of the northern end of Kensington Gardens and of the roads in the neighbourhood; of the other, to secure an earlier opening of Kew Gardens to the public. In the former case, the Commissioner acquiesced in the proposal to institute inquiries as to the drainage and other matters referred to, but he pointed out that anything in the way of floral decoration involved certain financial considerations which must be referred to the Chancellor of the Exchequer. In the case of Kew Gardens, which are not opened till one o'clock in the day, it was suggested that people were generally ignorant on this point, that they went, expecting to find admission much earlier, and, in the absence of other means for employing their time, sought refuge in the neighbouring public-houses; but Lord H. Lennox pointed out that people might know, if they would be at the trouble of finding out, so simple a matter for themselves. At the same time, he promised attention to the representations made to him. Are the British working classes incapable of taking care of themselves when they go for a day's outing? or is Government to provide a code of school-like regulations for people who visit our public institutions? Formerly, people took care of themselves in some fashion; now, it seems, they cannot restrain themselves from public-house recreation without the intervention or assistance of the Government. This is grandmotherly government with a vengeance.

Turf nomenclature is occasionally amusing, and, to people ignorant of our manners and customs, must often be the cause of some confusion. We doubtless all remember how Sterne, in the *Sentimental Journey*, introduces himself to M. le Comte de B——— as "Yorick," to the no small consternation of the Frenchman. Foreigners of the present day may not improbably have seen, with no little surprise, that at the recent Bristol meeting "Chilblain" won the Military Cup, "Breach of Promise" a selling steeple-chase, and the "Duke of Cambridge" the City Grand Annual, while "Milton" secured a Hunter's Hurdle Race, but was beaten by "Optimist" for an open hunter's flat race. The idea of the Commander-in-Chief of our Forces winning a hurdle race, and the author of *Paradise Lost* following his example, must be somewhat troublesome to the minds of our foreign friends.

The grand attraction of the week in the *Sporting World* is, of course, the arrival at Putney of the two University crews, and their daily appearance on the Thames, preparatory to the race of next Saturday. Not being specially versed in the mysteries of this particular kind of craft, we cannot help our readers to any wrinkle, so as to guide them in giving or taking the odds on this or that crew. Nor have we any particular idea what the odds may be. No doubt, Cambridge, with the prestige of victory during the past few years, is slightly the favourite, but, because one crew

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was successful last spring, it by no means follows that another crew will be successful this. For ourselves, we will, for once, be oracular, and cry, Blue for ever! Let our readers judge for themselves as to the particular shade of that colour we are most partial to. But the race is by no means all there has been to attract the sportsman this week. Oxford has held her sports, and, of course, selected her champions for the Athletic Meeting at Lillie Bridge. There have been also a match for the Championship at Pyramids, in which Cook, the billiard champion, carried off the honours against Richard, and a four-handed match at billiards, in which Cook and Roberts, champion, and ex-champion respectively, played Stanley and Taylor, 1,500, the former giving 300 points, and wining by 190. Some marvellous breaks were made, the principal being Stanley's 210, Cook's 180, 161 and 122 (unfinished), Robert's 280 and 126, and Taylor's 345.

The West End tradesmen will have little to complain of if the season continues as it has begun. We have already in previous weeks announced that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales held two levees on behalf of the Queen. This week Her Majesty in person has held both a Court and a levee at Buckingham Palace, the presentations at the latter being nearly 200 in number. On Wednesday, too, being the twelfth anniversary of the marriage of the Prince and Princess of Wales, their Royal Highnesses gave a grand ball at Marlborough House.

The hope of last week, that Lord Aberdare's intervention would bring about the termination of the South Wales Lock-out, has, thus far, at all events, not been realised. Meantime the greatest distress is reported to prevail in the districts affected, and some disturbances are said to have occurred in the Unions. All men must be anxious to see the end of this disastrous state of things, and it behoves the advisers of the men to be very careful in the advice they tender. It was very well for the dwarf and the giant to go out to battle together, but, if we remember rightly, the dwarf got all the hard knocks, and the giant all the glory. It is very well for professional agitators and others to talk of the rights of labour. The capitalists retort about the rights of capital, and meanwhile the poor men and their families are starving. Lord Aberdare's facts are capable of proof or disproof: at all events, they seem to us to afford a basis for settlement without the sacrifice of anybody's rights.

On Monday at the meeting of the Royal Geographical Society, Mr. Clements Markham read a highly interesting paper which he had compiled from the journals of Lieutenant Cameron, "On the Examination of the Southern Part of Lake Tanganyika in Equatorial Africa," that enterprising officer having, it is believed, discovered an outlet at the south-western extremity, which may prove to be the Congo, and being now on his way to the West Coast, in order, if possible, to settle, once for all, this important problem. On Wednesday at the Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, the Rev. Horace Waller read a paper "On Livingstone's Discoveries in connection with the resources of East Africa."

At last we hear from France that the Ministerial crisis is at an end. M. Buffet after apparently insuperable difficulties has at length succeeded in forming a Ministry, of which the most conspicuous members, besides himself (Interior), are M. Dufaure (Justice), M. Léon Say (Finance), M. Wallon (Public Instruction), Duke Decazes (Foreign Affairs), and General Cissey (War). From Spain, we hear of a Carlist victory, but the end of the war seems no nearer. Will the two antagonists go on fighting, as did the famous Kilkenny Cats, till nothing is left of either? It would be better, we think, if Don Carlos and Don Alphonso tossed up for the throne. It would not be a very dignified way of settling their claims, but at all events it would save much bloodshed. Better peace with a monarchy than war and duarchy.

It is only a few weeks since we reviewed a work entitled *Social Pressure* by the author of *Friends in Council*. Little did we then imagine that in so short a time it would be our painful duty to record the death of the essayist, who has so often enlivened the hours of our leisure with his genial, kindly humour. We said then, and we repeat now, that "among the essayists of the day none" stood "so deservedly high in the estimation of the public" as he whose very unexpected death all classes are now lamenting. Considering how fluent a writer he was, we were justified in looking forward to many another pleasant volume from his pen. Sir Arthur Helps was only in his 58th year, and his latest efforts in *Social Pressure* were quite as brilliant as in his *Friends in Council*, by which perhaps, he is and will be best known in the world of letters. Nor was it only as a literary man that Sir Arthur Helps was known and esteemed. He was an old and valued public servant, having, on quitting Cambridge in 1838, become private secretary to the late Lord Monteagle, then Mr. Spring-Rice and Chancellor of the Exchequer. In the following year, on Lord Monteagle becoming Comptroller-General of the Exchequer, Mr. Helps was appointed private secretary to Lord Morpeth, Chief Secretary for Ireland, and subsequently Earl of Carlisle and Lord Lieutenant. On the retirement in 1859 of the Hon. W. L. Bathurst, from the Clerkship of the Privy Council, Mr. Helps was chosen his successor, and this office is now rendered vacant by his untimely death. Sir Arthur Helps received the honours of a Civil K.C.B.-ship in 1872. Besides the two works we have already mentioned he was author of "Essays written in the intervals of Business," "Companions of my Solitude," "The Spanish Conquest of America," "The Life of Pizarro," and "The Life of Hernando Cortez and the Conquest of Mexico," "Brevia," "Thoughts on Government," and other works. He also edited the Prince Consort's Speeches, and prepared for the press for Her Majesty her "Leaves from the Journal of our Life in the Highlands." He was, indeed, a sincere and devoted friend as well as servant of Her Majesty who has gracefully paid her early tribute of respect to his memory. We cannot do better than quote the passage from the *Court Circular* wherein the Queen bears testimony to the loss she has sustained by the death of her Clerk of the Council:—

"By the death of Sir Arthur Helps, the Queen has sustained a loss which has caused Her Majesty great affliction. As a loyal subject, and as a kind friend, he rendered to Her Majesty very important service. He assisted, with a delicacy of feeling and an amount of sympathy which Her Majesty can never forget, in the publication of her records of the Prince Consort's speeches, and of her life in the Highlands, to which he willingly devoted the powers of his enlightened and accomplished mind. The Queen feels that in him she has lost a true and devoted friend."

The annual Ball of Masonic and Military Orders of the Red Cross of Constantine K.H.S. and St. John the Evangelist and the Grand Council of the United Orders will take place, under their auspices, at Willis's Rooms, King Street, St. James's, on Wednesday, 31st March, and the proceeds are to be divided amongst the Masonic Charities and the Grand Almoner's Fund. The arrangements will be made by the Executive Committee, under Sir F. M. Williams M.Ill.G.S. and Grand Commander St. John, Colonel F. Burdett M.E. Grand Viceroy and D.G.C. of St. John; H. A. Dubois G.A. Treasurer and Commander St. John, and C. F. Hogard G.V. Chamberlain St. John, Hon. Secs. All members of the Red Cross and appendant orders are permitted to wear full costume, with jewels of any degree, with the exception of Craft and Royal Arch. The tickets for Ladies will be 16s, Gentlemen 18s 6d, and double tickets 30s, to include refreshments during the evening, and a champagne supper. Non Masons are eligible to attend. Tickets can be had at the Grand Recorder's Office, 17 Great James Street, Bedford Row.

By the death of General Sir James Hope Grant, G.C.B., the British army loses one of its most gallant and most experienced officers, at a time, too, when, owing to the changes that are taking place, his knowledge as one of the few generals who have commanded in chief before an enemy would have proved of infinite value to the authorities. This brilliant cavalry officer was born in the year 1808, and obtained a cornetcy, by purchase, in 1826, in the 9th Lancers, in which regiment he served 32 years, and of which, at the time of his death, he was colonel. His first service in the field was in the first Chinese war, when he was brigade-major to Lord Saltoun, and was present at the assault and capture of Chukeangfoo and the landing before Nanking. He also served in the first and second Sikh wars; being present at the decisive battle of Sobraon in the former case, and at the passage of the Chenab, the affair of Ramnuggur and the battles of Chillianwallah and Goojerat in the latter. When the mutiny broke out in India, Grant was in command as lieutenant-colonel of his regiment at Umballa.

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He was appointed brigadier of cavalry and joined the small army of General Anson which marched on Delhi. He was engaged in all the actions connected with this siege, and a few weeks after the fall of the city, was despatched in command of a column proceeding to Cawnpore. He served under Lord Clyde, then Sir Colin Campbell, in the relief of Lucknow, and at its final capture, as well as in several other less important operations. In 1860 he was appointed to the command of our forces in China, and for his successes during the campaign was made a G.C.B., and, by the Emperor of the French, Grand Officer of the Legion of Honour. He was subsequently Commander-in-Chief at Madras, Quarter-master-general at the Horse Guards, and in 1870 succeeded Sir J. Yorke Scarlett in the command at Aldershot. In 1861 he had been appointed Colonel of the 4th Hussars, but in 1865 was transferred to his old regiment, the 9th Hussars. He had been on sick-leave for some time past, but it was only on the 27th ult. that Sir William Gull, who was in attendance, pronounced his case desperate. He died on the 7th inst. Sir James Grant married, in 1847, Helen, daughter of S. Taylor Esq., Bengal Civil Service.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, with Princes Albert Victor and George Frederick, were present last evening at the annual public supper of the boys of Christ's Hospital. The hall was crowded to excess, several of the governors, including Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Mayor, being in attendance. After the usual opening service the ordinary supper was partaken of and then grace and an anthem being respectively said and sung, the boys passed in procession before his Royal Highness, the Trades with their candlesticks, bread baskets, &c., &c., forming a conspicuous feature in the long line. During the supper the Prince and Princess with their suite walked round the hall, inspecting the arrangements, and after the National Anthem had been sung the Royal visitors departed, the boys strewing their path with flowers.

The Triennial Session of the Grand Encampment of Masons was held at New Orleans on the 1st December last, and continued five days. There was a large attendance of "Sir Knights" from all parts of the country, who were received and hospitably entertained by the "Sir Knights" and citizens of New Orleans. The Session was a great success, but considered as a mere Masonic demonstration we believe that little benefit accrues to the Order by these gatherings. The authorities of the Grand Encampment seem to lack power to enforce its edicts, and the regulations respecting costume were entirely disregarded. A report on Templar law was ordered to be printed, and was referred to the State Grand Commendery for consideration, but before the close of the proceedings this order was rescinded, and the whole digest was adopted. Cleveland, Ohio, was selected as the place for holding the next Session, in 1877. The honours were distributed as follows:—Sir James H. Hopkins, of Pennsylvania, Grand Master; Sir Vincent L. Hurlbut, of Illinois, Deputy Grand Master; Sir Walter L. Bragg, of Alabama, Grand Generalissimo; Sir Edward T. Shultze, of Maryland, Grand Captain General; Sir John W. Simons, of New York, Grand Treasurer; Sir Theodore L. Parvin, of Iowa, Grand Recorder; Sir Benton H. Langley, of Minnesota, Grand Senior Warden; Sir Charles B. Woodruff, of Kentucky, Grand Junior Warden; Sir Joseph P. Horner, of Louisiana, Grand Standard Bearer; Sir John H. Brown, of Kansas, Grand Sword Bearer; Sir Joseph W. Fellows, of New Hampshire, Grand Warden.

The annual benefit of Mr. F. B. Chatterton takes place at Drury Lane Theatre this (Saturday) evening. The programme, a very extensive one, will comprise a selection from the entertainment of the Moore and Burgess Minstrels, Amy Robsart, The Belles of the Kitchen, Rebecca, and Aladdin, supported by the Vokes Family, James Fernandez, W. Terriss, Miss Genevieve Ward, &c.

American Revivalism, of which Messrs. Moody and Sankey are now giving us a specimen, is a comparatively ancient religious commodity. It is the direct out-growth of the camp meetings which have been so graphically described by Mrs. Beecher Stowe. Revivalism indeed has almost become a special calling on the other side of the Atlantic. Professor Finney and other "Evangelical" writers have prepared handbooks, showing that a revival and a special outpouring of the Spirit, whatever that may mean, may be obtained at any moment. Messrs. Moody and Sankey are skilled in the art of playing upon the emotions of the ignorant, but we shall be surprised if they succeed in creating anything like a sensation in London. Religious dissipation does not thrive in the Metropolis.

Bro. Right Hon. the Lord Mayor has arranged that, on Tuesday, the 23rd inst., which will be the "Golden Wedding" of the well-known vocalist, Bro. Ransford, the dinner to his friends, in honour of that interesting event, shall take place at the Mansion House.

The annual Masonic ball, held at Portsmouth, will take place on the 12th April, at the Southsea Assembly Rooms, in aid of the funds of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. The Stewards include Bros. Colonel Meehan, Lieut. E. G. Holbrook T.C., George E. Kent J.P. (ex-Mayor of Portsmouth), Murrell T.C., Sub-Lieut. Feetham, and the W.M.'s and other Officers of several of the Lodges in Portsmouth and neighbourhood. Bro. J. Cornelius Wheeler, W.M. of the Senior Lodge in the town (Phœnix 257), is Chairman of the Ball Committee, and Bros. Holbrook, Feetham and German Hon. Secs. The orchestra will be composed of members of the fine band of the Royal Marine Artillery (Bro. J. Winterbottom's).

Bro. J. H. Ryley and Miss Barnum, who have achieved so great a success in their celebrated song, "The Quakers," took their benefit on the 4th instant, at the Royal Music Hall, Holborn (Bro. J. S. Sweasey proprietor). The Hall was crowded to excess, and in the course of the evening Bro. Riley took occasion, in a neat and expressive speech, to thank his friends for their kind support.

The "Strong Man" Lodge of Instruction meets every Monday Evening, at the "Crown" Tavern, Clerkenwell Green, under the Preceptorship of Brother J. Beckett.

We are requested to state that the day on which the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs will be the guests of the great City Lodge of Freemasons is fixed for Saturday the 13th March, and not Saturday 20th as previously stated. The Lodge will be opened in the pillar hall of the Cannon-street Terminus Hotel at four, and the banquet will take place in the large hall at six o'clock.

The election of a member for Tipperary took place on Thursday, and is understood to have resulted in a majority for Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Moore, the Conservative cadidate, caused a protest to be handed to every voter, in which he says that "Mitchell is disqualified to be elected a representative of the County, or to serve as such representative, on the following grounds:—Firstly, because he is an alien; secondly, because he was convicted of treason-felony in 1848, and sentenced to penal servitude, and before the term of his sentence expired he escaped from prison, and has neither undergone the punishment to which he was sentenced, or been pardoned; thirdly, because he has been declared disqualified by the House of Commons to be so elected, and that such disqualification still continues. Mr. Mitchell has stated that he will neither go to Parliament nor defend his seat in the Court of Common Pleas; and that if he is unseated, Tipperary is virtually disfranchised, and that he intends to turn his attention to other Irish Counties with a view to getting them disfranchised; the great object he has in view being to shew the Irish people how to shake off oppression.

CHINESE CARVING.

FOR Sale, an elaborately carved Set of Ivory Chessmen. The Kings stand 8½ inches high, the other pieces in proportion. Knights and Pawns on horseback, all mounted on stands, with concentric balls. Can be seen, and full particulars obtained, on application to W. W. Morgan, 67 Barbican.—Adv.

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DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be greatly obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the kingdom would favour us with a copy of their summonses each time of issue.

SATURDAY, 13th MARCH.

108—London, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
173—Phœnix, Freemasons' Hall.
178—Caveac, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
1328—Granite, Freemasons' Hall.
1426—Great City, Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.

1361—United Service, Greyhound, Richmond, Surrey.

MONDAY, 15th MARCH.

1—Grand Masters', Freemasons' Hall.
8—British, Freemasons' Hall.
21—Emulation, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
58—Felicity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
85—Faithful, Swan Inn, Harleston, Norfolk.
185—Tranquillity, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
862—Whittington, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
901—City of London, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.
907—Royal Albert, Freemasons' Hall.
1159—Marquis Dalhousie, Freemasons' Hall.
1201—Eclectic, Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 12—Prudence, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.

720—Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham.
61—Probity, Freemasons' Hall, Halifax.
77—Freedom, Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend.
124—Union Lodge of Mark Masters, Masonic Hall, Sunderland.
264—Nelson of the Nile, Freemasons' Hall, Batley.
382—Royal Union, Uxbridge.
408—Three Graces, Haworth, Yorks.
424—Borough Lodge, Masonic Hall, Gateshead.
1514—Thornhill, Masonic Room, Dearn House, Lindley, Yorks.
R. A. 139—Paradise, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
R. A. 827—St. John's, Masonic Temple, Dewsbury.

TUESDAY, 16th MARCH.

Board of General Purposes, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.
80—United Mariners, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham Street.
73—Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark.
95—Eastern Star, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street.
162—Cadogan, Freemasons' Hall.
165—Honour and Generosity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate Street.
194—St. Paul's, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon Street.
435—Salisbury, Freemasons' Hall.
704—Camden, Bull and Gate Tavern, Kentish Town.
857—St. Mark's, Half Moon Tavern, Herne Hill.
1441—Ivy, Windsor Castle Tavern, Southwark-bridge Road.
R. A. 19—Mount Sinai, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street.
R. A. 186—Industry, Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 933—Doric, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street.

51—Angel, Three Cups Hotel, Colchester.
373—Socrates, George Hotel, High Street, Huntingdon.
1214—Scarborough, Station Hotel, Southhill, Batley.
1470—Chiltern, Town Hall, Dunstable.
R. A. 80—St. John's, Masonic Hall, Sunderland.

WEDNESDAY, 17th MARCH.

Grand Stewards' Lodge.
140—St. George's, Trafalgar Hotel, Greenwich.
174—Sincerity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham Street.
193—Oak, Freemasons' Hall
700—Nelson, Masonic Hall, William Street, Woolwich.
969—Maybury, Freemasons' Hall.
1044—Wandsworth, Spread Eagle Hotel, Wandsworth.
1349—Friars, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars.
1365—St. Marylebone, British Stores, New-street, St. John's-wood.
1382—Corinthian, George Inn, Glengall Road, Isle of Dogs.
R. A. 10—Westminster and Keystone, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street.
R. A. 217—Stability, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.

258—Amphibious, Freemasons' Hall, Heckmondwike.
380—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Morley, Yorks.
910—St. Oswald, Masonic Hall, Pontefract.
982—Sun and Sector, Portland-square, Workington.
1019—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Wakefield.
1301—Brighouse, Masonic Rooms, Brighouse, Yorks.
1334—Norman Lodge, Freemasons' Hall, Durham.
1479—Halsey, Town Hall, St. Albans.
R. A. 820—Lily Chap. of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond.
R.A. 857—St. Mark's, Half Moon Tavern, Herne Hill
R. A. 1365—St. Marylebone, British Stores, New Street, St. John's Wood.

THURSDAY, 18th MARCH.

House Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
23—Globe, Freemasons' Hall.
40—Gihon, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham Street.
65—Constitutional, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon Street.
66—St. Mary's, Freemasons' Hall.
169—Temperance, White Swan, High Street, Deptford.
179—Manchester, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street.
181—Universal, Freemasons' Hall.
733—Westbourne, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood.
813—New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton.
1139—South Norwood, South Norwood Hall, South Norwood.
1257—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Approach-road, Victoria-park.
1287—Great Northern, King's Cross.
1305—Clapton, White Hart Hotel, Clapton.
15 6—White Horse of Kent, 73 Cheapside.
1567—Metropolitan, Metropolitan Club, 269 Pentonville-road.

98—St. Martin's, Board Room, Town Hall, Barnsley.
208—Three Grand Principles, Masonic Hall, Dewsbury.
275—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield.
337—Candour, Commercial Inn, Uppermill, Yorks.
581—St. Helen's, Hartlepool.
666—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Bradford.
949—Philanthropy, Freemasons' Hall, Stockton-on-Tees.
1082—Excelsior, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
1421—Langthorne, Swan Hotel, Stratford, Essex.

FRIDAY, 15th MARCH.

House Committee, Boys' School, at 4.
6—Friendship, Willis's Rooms, King-street, St. James's.
1143—Middlesex, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
201—Jordan, Freemasons' Hall.
1118—University, Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 92—Moira, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.

FRIDAY, 15th MARCH—*continued.*

401—Royal Forest, Hark-to-Bounty Inn, Slaidburn, Yorks.
622—Holme Valley, Victoria Hotel, Holmfirth.
1034—Ecclesbill, Freemasons' Hall, Ecclesbill, Yorks.
1108—Wharfedale, Private Room, Westgate, Otley.
1311—Zetland, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
1385—Gladsmuir, Red Lion Hotel, Barnet, Herts.
1389—Fenwick Lodge, Masonic Hall, Sunderland.
R. A. 521—Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Huddersfield.
R. A. 837—Marquess Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon.

SATURDAY, 16th MARCH.

329—Sphinx, Camberwell.
364—Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Hackney.
715—Panmure, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
1425—Hyde Park, The Westbourne, No. 1 Craven Road, Paddington.

149—Peace, Masonic Rooms, Meltham.
309—Prince George, Bottoms, Eastwood.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY.—44.—St. Luke, Freemasons' Hall.
TUESDAY.—36.—St. David, Ship Hotel, East Register Street.
" 406.—Rifle, Freemasons' Hall.
WEDNESDAY.—160.—Roman Eagle, Iona Hotel, 62 Nicholson Street.
THURSDAY.—48.—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall.
" 226.—Portobello, Royal Hotel, Bath Street.
" R. A. 153.—Perseverance, Lodge Room, 86 Constitution Street.
FRIDAY.—R. A. 83.—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Albion Lodge, No. 9.—This old established and flourishing Lodge met on Wednesday, 10th inst., at the Regent's Masonic Hall, Air Street, Regent Street. Bros. W. R. Marsh W.M., Scott S.W., Moring P.M. Treasurer, S. Coste P.M. Secretary, E. Coste P.M. S.D., Pake J.D., Hassfeld I.G., and Past Masters Cater, S. Vallentine, Willey, H. Friend, H. Albert, Storr. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. Weller and Harvey were raised to 3rd degree, Messrs. Robey and Blackman were initiated, and Bros. G. Coleman 134, and S. Upton 1000, were elected joining members. A sum of five guineas was placed on the list of the W.M., who had consented to act as Steward at the Anniversary Festival for Boys, on the 30th of June, and Bro. Moring P.M. gave the sum of £5 5s, which the brethren subsequently augmented to £40. The W.M. then presented Bro. Cater, the I.P.M., with a jewel. He was well calculated to wear it, for he had fairly earned it by his working and the manner he had conduced to the comfort of the brethren during his occupancy of the chair (the jewel is a Past Master's square, with a large diamond and suitable inscription). Bro. Cater suitably responded. A sum of 21s was given to a distressed brother. Bro. Moring P.M. said that on the 28th April His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales would be installed as M.W. Grand Master, and every brother in connection with the Order could not be present to witness that interesting ceremony. He would be pleased to have a Masonic meeting, where they could gather together to celebrate and do honour to that event. This was carried with acclamation, and when H.R.H. the Prince of Wales's name was mentioned it was a signal for enthusiastic cheers. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a very excellent banquet, *a la Russe*, provided by Bro. Nicoll. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given. Bro. Hyde Pullen P.G.S.B. returned thanks for the Grand Officers. Bro. Cater I.P.M. then proposed the toast of the W.M., who, he said, was a thorough Mason in every sense of the word, and his zeal, not only in the cause of the various charities, but in his working, was a credit to the Order. The W.M. briefly responded, and in the course of his remarks said: He was only too pleased to do all he could for the benefit of the Lodge; his object was to work with credit to himself and satisfaction to the brethren. Bro. Hyde Pullen P.G.S.B. returned thanks for the visitors, and, in the course of a very good speech, echoed the sentiments of those who had been honoured with invitations, that this ancient and flourishing Lodge had lost none of its prestige, but had progressed, and would do so while it had such a W.M. and efficient officers to conduct its business. Bro. Cater I.P.M. returned thanks for the toast of the P.M.'s. The toast of the Masonic Charities could not have found a better representative than Bro. F. Binckes P.G.S. and Secretary Boys' School, who, in an eloquent speech, dilated on the three other charities, showing their amounts of funded property, and regretting that the Charity he represented did not possess it. The W.M. had consented to act as Steward, and a large sum had been given by the brethren, but the smallest modicum would be gratefully received, for there were 177 boys to be educated, and £7,000 a year was required for their support. He thanked the W.M. for his kindness, and for what he had done. Bro. Moring followed, endorsing all that had been uttered by Bro. Binckes, and the amount of subscriptions given by the brethren was a sufficient proof that they fully appreciated the Masonic feeling exhibited by the W.M. and every member of the Lodge. Bro. Scott S.W. returned thanks for the officers, and the Tyler's toast was then given. Bro. Kimber S.W. and Organist was, as usual, efficient and successful in his endeavours to amuse the brethren; as was also Bro. Thompson. The Lodge room was beautifully decorated in white and gold, with appropriate emblems. An Organ is fitted in the wall, and Bro. Dunster 174 played some appropriate music, that gave great solemnity to the proceedings. Amongst the visitors were Bros. Fennell 447, A. Cooke 222, Pollard 413, R. W. Little P.M., Secretary Girls' School, F. Binckes P.M. Secretary Boys' School, H. Marfleet W.M. 217, Ayres 95, Annan 554, Oakley 793, Abbott 18, Holland 754, Dunster 174, Karaby 1155, Houlditch 889, H. M. Levy P.M. 188, &c.

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United Industrious Lodge, No. 81, Canterbury.—The usual monthly meeting was held on Thursday, the 4th of March last. Among the brethren present were Captain P. H. Knight W.M., in the chair. Bros. Coppin P.M. P.P.G.S.W., acting as S.W., Dr. Browning J.W., Bros. Wiltshire, Plant, Dean S.D., J.D. and I.G. respectively, Pringuer Tyler. The minutes of the last Lodge night were read and confirmed, and on the motion of the W.M., seconded by Bro. Major Elmslo P.M., it was unanimously resolved that the Lodge do record on its minutes its deepest sense of the heavy loss it has sustained by the death of Bro. John Pont P.M.—for 26 years one of its members, 24 of which he had been appointed Hon. Sec.; and also that a letter be addressed to his widow and family, sympathising with them in their bereavement, and expressing the great sorrow of the Lodge at the loss of so good a Mason. Bro. Pont was initiated in May 1848, and from that time to his death, which occurred 22nd February 1875, his signature is absent from the attendance book on 22 occasions only. Bro. John R. Hall P.M. P.P.G. Assistant Sec., was appointed by the W.M. Hon. Sec., and duly invested with the collar and jewel of the office. A ballot was taken for Dr. W. H. Longhurst, the Organist of Canterbury Cathedral, which the W.M. declared unanimous. Some other business was transacted, and the Lodge adjourned.

Vitruvian Lodge, No. 87.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, 10th inst., at Bro. Frampton's, White Hart, College Street, Lambeth. There were present Bro. C. S. Jolly W.M., E. Thurkle S.W., B. Clegg J.W., J. G. Bond P.M. Treasurer, H. Mallett Secretary, C. Walters S.D., H. T. S. Ross J.D., C. Knott I.G., P.M.'s Morris, Fisher, Hull, Noke, Hunt, Whiting, and several other brethren. The Lodge was opened and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. Bros. Goodman, Tupper and Beard were raised to the sublime degree of Master Masons. Bros. Ireland, Wood, Tallfutt, Dale and Benn, were passed to the degree of F.C.'s. A board of installed Masters was formed, and Bro. E. Thurkle S.W. and W.M. elect, was duly installed in the chair of K.S. by Bro. Jolly the I.P.M. The W.M. having been saluted according to ancient custom invested his officers, viz., C. S. Jolly I.P.M., B. Clegg S.W., C. Walters J.W., J. G. Bond P.M. Treasurer, Stuart Secretary, H. T. S. Ross S.D., A. Timothy J.D., C. Knott I.G., J. Skirving D.C., J. Robinson W.S., and Bentley Tyler. A ballot was then taken for Mr. T. H. Gantlett, which was unanimous in his favour, and he, being in attendance, was initiated in the ancient mysteries. The brethren, about 80 in number, then adjourned to the banquet. The W.M., in proposing the toast of the initiate, exhorted him in forcible terms to perfect himself. He should attend Lodges of Instruction, and he trusted by so doing, he would, at some future period, occupy the position he now held. Among the visitors, which were numerous, we noticed Bros. Cottebrune Past Grand Pursuivant, Fox W.M. Mount Lebanon 73, Landfield P.M. St. Johns 1343, Cantle J.W. Ivy 1441, Willis P.M. Domatic 177, Aden P.M., and May Westbourne 733, Lane W.M. Old King's Arms 28, Swallow W.M. Royal Union 382, Mander W.M. Eclectic 1201, Friswell Ebury 1348, Meredith P.M. 87, Grosvenor 1237. Bro. Cottebrune responded to the toast of the Grand Officers, and Bro. Meredith for the visitors. The brethren separated after spending a very agreeable evening.

Grosvenor Mark Lodge, No. 144.—A meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, the 10th inst., at the Regent's Masonic Hall, Air Street, Regent Street. Bro. T. Parker in the chair, Lowenthal S.W., Brighton J.W., J. W. Murley M.O., Levander P.M. Secretary, C. Hamilton P.M. Secretary, Rook S.O. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. The ceremony of installation was very creditably performed by Bro. Levander P.M., assisted by Bro. F. Binckes. Bro. Murley M.O. announced his intention to act as Steward for the Girls' School. The Lodge was closed and a very capital banquet followed, when the usual toasts were give. The outgoing W.M. was presented with a very elegant jewel.

Sincerity Lodge of Instruction, No. 174.—The annual banquet of the members and friends of the above Lodge of Instruction took place on Monday evening, 8th March, at Brother Wright's, the "Cheshire Cheese" Tavern, Crutched Friars, when about forty brethren assembled, and spent a most enjoyable evening. The chair was occupied by Brother E. J. Moore, the W.M. of Lodge 174, who was supported by Bros. Brown as S.W., Webb as J.W., E. Tuck I.P.M. 174, Jno. Miller W.S. 174, R. H. Allen J.W. 554, J. Newton P.M. 174, E. G. Legge S.D. 1196, H. C. Webb D.C. 174, J. Crawley P.M. 174, J. G. Hilliard S.W. 174, Gardiner S.W. Royal Alfred, R. Bradbrook S.D. 1259; Brothers Horking, Ellis, Ives, Palmer, Harris, McDonnald, Cull, W. W. Morgan, &c. The cloth having been removed, the Chairman proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were enthusiastically responded to, and the intermediate time was pleasantly filled up by some capital singing, Bros. Hall, Bradbrook and Brown specially distinguishing themselves. The toast of the W.M. was proposed by Bro. Crawley, who made a few pithy remarks upon the claims Brother Moore had upon the brethren of the Lodge of Sincerity. The toast was suitably replied to by Bro. E. J. Moore, who then proposed Success to the Sincerity Lodge of Instruction, and coupled with it the name of their much respected and energetic Preceptor, Brother J. Crawley. The Lodge of Instruction had been established many, many years, and Brother Crawley had won the esteem of all who had attended it. The brethren had been in some perturbation of spirit as to what they should do to testify the respect in which they held their Preceptor. Some had suggested he should be presented with a P.M.'s Jewel on this occasion, but that was decided unsuitable, as he was already in possession of one from the Lodge. Under these circumstances the brethren had done what he considered was a very good thing, and that was to instruct him to present Brother Crawley with a purse of sovereigns; he thought the purse contained twenty-five, and all he need add was that it would have given him as much pleasure to have presented fifty. Brother Crawley thanked the brethren for their great and unexpected kindness. He was always pleased to assist his brother Masons in obtaining a proper knowledge of their duties, and he hoped he should long be spared to give them any instruction it was in his power to impart. The toast of the visitors was proposed and responded to, and then, as many of the brethren had to catch trains, this pleasant gathering terminated, all expressing themselves highly gratified at the pains taken by Brother Wright to conduce to the comforts of those present.

St. James's Union Lodge, No. 180.—This Lodge, so justly celebrated for its admirable working, met on the 9th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street. Bro. W. C. Parsons W.M. occupied the chair. Bro. G. Bubb P.M. S.W., A. L. Annett J.W., H. Robinson P.M. Treasurer, H. A. Stacey Secretary, Pillin S.D., Smith J.D., Harrison I.G., Herf P.M., W. S. Farwig J.W., S. Hart Organist, and Past Masters Bros. A. Gallico, Simpson, Stoner, Cameron, J. R. Stacey, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. Pavitt, Thompson, and Knatler were raised to the third degree, Bros. Baker, Atkins and Wood were passed to the 2nd degree. The working of the various degrees reflected great credit on the W.M. Bro. Cameron P.M. then stated that he would have much pleasure in serving as Steward at the next festival of the Girls' School, and Bro. Pannell C.C. said he had much pleasure in informing the brethren that the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor would take the chair on that occasion. He was also a Steward, and he hoped the brethren would liberally subscribe to their joint lists. A sum not exceeding ten guineas was proposed to be given to the widow of a deceased brother. Bro. A. Annett J.W. announced that the annual ball realised, after all expenses were paid, between £25 and £30. The Lodge was then closed until October, and the Brethren adjourned to the Crown Room, where a very excellent banquet, *a la Russe*, was provided by Bro. Francatelli and superintended by Bro. Knill. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were then given. The W.M., referring to the Prince of Wales's election as M.W.G.M., said it was one of those events in Freemasonry that the Craft would never forget. The installation ceremony would take place on the 28th April, and would be remembered by every brother who might have an opportunity of being present. The R.W. Bro. The Earl of Carnarvon, as Prov. Grand Master, had in every capacity shown his aptitude for the office. He had been elected as one calculated to fill that office with credit and honour to our noble Order. Bro. Pillin then sang the song, "God Bless the Prince of Wales," and an enthusiastic response was given by the brethren. The toast of the Masonic Charities followed, which was coupled with the names of Bro. Cameron P.M. and Bro. Pillin. The W.M. said he knew that the Lodge had sent three Stewards for the Masonic Charities, and small subscriptions given by the brethren would, in the end, result in a goodly sum. Those brethren who were Stewards would show what the Lodge could do. He was sure the brethren would do all they could in furtherance of that noble object. Bro. Cameron P.M. returned thanks. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the so-called newly-initiated. They were so-called, having been initiated on a former occasion; they had passed their second degree to-night. As on a former occasion he had not had the pleasure of proposing their healths, he would do so now, and he could only say the Lodge of the St. James's Union was proud to see them among them. The several candidates returned thanks. Bro. Gallico I.P.M. proposed the health of the W.M. Bro. Parsons, in reply, said he was pleased to hear the encomiums passed on him by his predecessor, who, during his year of office, had discharged his duties to the satisfaction of the brethren. The toast of the visitors was then given, and Bro. Baxter P.G.S. returned thanks in an eloquent speech. He gave a just meed of praise to the W.M. for his excellent working and able presidency. Three brethren followed, and each one endorsed these remarks. The toast of the officers and the Tyler's toast concluded a very delightful and harmonious evening, Bros. G. Bubb, Herf, Gallico, Pillin and Atkins contributing to the enjoyment of the brethren by their excellent singing. Bro. Hart, the organist of the Lodge, gave great satisfaction by his artistic accompaniment. Amongst those present were Bros. E. Baxter P.G.S., J. Bacon P.M. 157, Cooper 55, A. Swanborough late 188, J. Levison P.M. 656 (Sydney), A. Borris 1446, Bell 25, C. Duke P.P.G.D. (Sussex), A. Godfrey Flood 297, H. M. Levy P.M. 188, Bulaford, J. H. Stacey and Bacon G.S.W. Sussex.

Lodge of Harmony, No. 309.—This Lodge met at the Assembly Rooms, Red Lion Hotel, Farcham, on the 4th inst., present were the W.M. (Bro. H. Ford, Alderman of Portsmouth), Bros. Whale S.W., Gilbert J.W., Goldsmith P.M. as Treasurer, E. G. Holbrook P.M. Hon. Sec., Downing S.D., Robinson J.D., S. Gambles J.D., several P.M.'s and other members. Every officer of the Lodge, except the Treasurer (who is also the I.P.M., and was prevented by illness), was at his post. The business on the notice paper was the initiation of three gentlemen, who had already been balloted for and elected, Messrs. T. Bailey, F. W. Brook, and W. Hunt. The ceremony in each case was most ably performed by the W.M., and the "working" of the various officers was perfect, that of Bro. Robinson, the Junior Deacon, a rising young Mason, more particularly so. This Brother gave the working tools of the first degree, and afterwards delivered an able lecture on the tracing board, to the gratification of all the brethren present. At the banquetting table the health of the initiates was given by the W.M., and duly acknowledged. The W.M. also gave "the Officers of the Lodge," referring particularly to the admirable manner in which his young friend, Bro. Robinson,

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had performed his duties, being the first time he had undertaken the office. Bro. Robinson, who was called upon, responded. P.M. Holbrook (Town Councillor of Portsmouth) gave the health of the W.M., which was warmly received. He congratulated him on their highly successful meeting that evening, remarking that the Lodge was fortunate in having secured Bro. Ford's services as their W.M. for that year. The W.M., in an eloquent reply, spoke of the beauty and value of Freemasonry. "The visitors," proposed by P.M. Tayler, was acknowledged by Bro. C. Guy Robinson S.W. 705 (Lieutenant in the Royal Navy).

Star Lodge, No. 1275.—A meeting of this Lodge was held on Friday, 5th March, at the Ship Hotel, Greenwich. Bro. H. Keebbe I.P.M., in the unavoidable absence of Bro. G. Pymm W.M., through illness, opened the Lodge. Bro. J. Smith P.G.P. P.M. Treasurer, then raised Bro. E. W. Chetwynd, passed Bro. E. H. Rand and J. Brooks, and initiated Messrs. E. Searle and F. J. Lindsey. Amongst those present were Bros. F. Walters P.G.P. (Middlesex) P.M. Secretary, Rev. G. P. Colles Chaplain, R. W. Williams S.D., C. W. Williams J.D., W. Bell I.G., F. B. Williams Organist, W. B. Woodman M.C., W. E. Williams, L. H. Williams, W. Kipps, G. F. Guest, W. Hardman, W. P. Tong, J. Ellis, E. Lane, H. J. Clare, H. W. Elmer, A. C. Woodward, W. F. Gardiner, &c. Visitors, W. B. Waghorn W.M. 946, J. Hayward S.W. and W.M. elect 946, W. B. Wallace 127, H. Potter 11, A Burrell W.M. 1446, A Stuart 1446, A. Boehr 1446, W. T. Morphew 1446, &c., &c. Propositions for several candidates for initiation were received, after which the Lodge was closed, and a banquet followed.

Thames Valley Lodge, No. 1460, Halliford.—On Saturday evening, 6th March, a meeting of this Lodge was held at the Ship Hotel, for ordinary Masonic business and the installation of a new Master. The gentleman elected to this office was the Rev. Dr. Brette, of Christ's Hospital, who was installed by Bro. R. Wentworth Little, Provincial Grand Secretary of Middlesex. Lieutenant Elliott, Royal Naval Reserve, was appointed Senior Warden. Colonel Burdett, the Prov. Grand Master, and several Past Grand Officers of England were present, including Bros. W. Paas, John Boyd, and Thomas Cubitt. Apologies for absence were received from Grand Secretary, Bro. Hervey, and the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Bro. J. C. Parkinson. Lieut. Colonel Peters, the out-going, and first Master of the Lodge, was presented with a Past Master's jewel, of the value of 15 guineas, in recognition of his zeal and ability in discharging the duties of his office during the past year. This jewel was constructed from a design by Bro. J. G. Marsh, architect, the Secretary of the Lodge, and was of beautiful workmanship. Five gentlemen, of distinguished position in society, were initiated into the Order in the course of the evening, and at the conclusion of the Lodge business the brethren partook of an excellent banquet, at which the new Master's health was proposed with great cordiality by Colonel Peters, and drunk with the heartiest fervency by the company.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

On Monday evening, 15th January, a large meeting of the Craft attended at the Leinster Marine Lodge of Australia, 266, I.C., to assist in commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the Lodge, being the oldest Lodge in the Colonies. The Hon. J. S. Farnell, Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, attended, and, according to ancient custom, installed the W.M. Brother A. S. Appleton and his officers. An interesting chronology of the events of the Lodge since its formation in 1824 was read by a P.M. of the Lodge, bringing many bygone circumstances of the Colony in a compact form for the information of the brethren. After closing the Lodge the brethren adjourned to a banquet prepared in M. Compagnoni's best style. The W.M. had on his right Brother Hon. J. S. Farnell, Provincial Grand Master; Brother the Hon. J. Sutherland, Alderman J. Davies, M.L.A., and many P.M.'s of the three constitutions. The usual Masonic toasts were given. The toast of the evening—"The Anniversary we celebrate," was drunk with much enthusiasm, being ably proposed by the R.W.P.G.M. After spending an enjoyable evening the brethren dispersed.

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Printed and Published for the Freemason's Chronicle Publishing Company Limited, by Brother WILLIAM WRAY MORGAN, at 67 Barbican, E.C. Saturday, 13th March 1875.

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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. I.—No. 12. SATURDAY, 20th MARCH 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

ROYALTY AND THE CRAFT.

THE Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as M.W.G.M. is very likely to occupy the attention of the public for some time to come. There will, in fact, in the Masonic world, be hardly any other subject of general interest not only between now and the 28th April, the day fixed for the important ceremony, but for some considerable period after. It may be as well therefore to place our readers *au courant* of the past connection of the Royal Family with our Order. It is not, perhaps, generally known, even among Masons, that His Royal Highness is the *third* Prince of Wales of the Hanoverian family who has been a member of the Brotherhood. Twenty years only had elapsed since the revival of Freemasonry in 1717, when Frederick Prince of Wales, son of George II. and father of George III., became a Mason. He was initiated, during the Grand Mastership of the Earl of Darnley, at an occasional Lodge, specially convened at the Palace of Kew, at which Dr. Desaguliers presided as W.M., and His Royal Highness passed at the same Lodge. At a subsequent Lodge, specially convened for the purpose, at the same place, a short time after, His Royal Highness was raised to the degree of Master Mason. This happened in 1737, but unfortunately the prince died in 1751, just at the time when his connection with the Craft might have been of essential service to it. In 1765, the Duke of York, according to Findel, became a Mason, at Berlin, while in the following year, during the Mastership of Lord Blaney, the Dukes of Gloucester and Cumberland, brothers of George III., were initiated, the former at an occasional Lodge, holden at the Horn Tavern, Westminster, on the 16th February 1766, at which Lord Blaney presided in person; the latter at an occasional Lodge, at the Thatched House Tavern, in St. James's Street, under the presidency of General Salter. The rank of Past Grand Master was assigned to these Princes. In 1782 the Duke of Cumberland was elected Grand Master, the privilege being then for the first time granted to a Prince of the Blood of nominating a peer of the realm to be acting Grand Master. His Royal Highness continued to preside over the Order till his death in 1790, and was succeeded by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, afterwards George IV. In 1786, Prince William Henry, Duke of Clarence, afterwards William IV., was initiated at Lodge 86, held at the Prince George Inn, Plymouth.—See *Preston's Illustrations*. He became W.M. of Prince of Wales's Lodge in 1828, on the death of the Duke of York, and on his accession to the throne, Grand Patron. On Thursday, 6th February 1787, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales was made a Mason, at an occasional Lodge convened for the purpose at the Star and Garter Tavern, Pall Mall, over which H.R.H. the Duke of Cumberland, Grand Master, presided, and H.R.H. the Duke of York was initiated at a special Lodge convened at the same place for the purpose, on the 21st November of the same year, the Grand Master again presiding in person, and His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales assisting at the ceremony of initiation. Grand Master His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland died in September 1790, about the last public act at which he assisted being the reinstatement, after a separation of ten years, of the Lodge of Antiquity in all its Masonic privileges. On the 24th November 1790, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales was elected his successor in the Grand Mastership, appointing Lord Moira, afterwards Marquis of Hastings, as Acting Grand Master, but it was not till the 2nd May 1792, when the Grand Feast was held at the Freemasons' Hall, that His Royal Highness was duly installed in his office. Meantime, it had been announced in Grand Lodge, 19th February 1790, that H.R.H. the Duke of Kent had been regularly initiated in the Union Lodge at Geneva, and that H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex had also been initiated at a Lodge at Berlin. The Duke of Cumberland, afterwards King of Hanover, and Gloucester, were also initiated, at a later period. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales having subsequently been chosen Grand Master of Scotland, in 1806, remained Grand Master till 1813, when, being Regent, he resigned the position to his Royal Brother of Sussex, who soon after became Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of Masons (1813). In 1813 H.R.H. the Duke of Kent was chosen Grand Master of the York or Ancient Masons, and it was by the united efforts of these two Dukes, of Sussex and Kent, that the healing of the great schism was at last happily effected. The career as Grand Master of H.R.H. Duke of Sussex, is it not written in the chronicles of Masonry? Suffice it that no one could have devoted himself more entirely to furthering the interests of the Craft. During his long reign of 30 years, Freemasonry continued to flourish, and our hope and expectation is that, under the beneficent reign of his Royal grandnephew, the present M.W.G.M., the success of the Order may be as prominent and as continuous as it was during the auspicious Grand Mastership of H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex.

COUNT CAGLIOSTRO

THE history of imposture and popular delusion affords no instance of daring and successful swindling which can, in any degree, approach that of the subject of this article. Count Alessandro di Cagliostro, the self-styled pupil of the sage Athotas, foster child of the Scherif of Mecca, Prince of Trebizond, and Grand Master of the Egyptian Lodge of high Masonic Science, was probably the most finished scoundrel that ever left a mark upon the world's chronicles. His career has been the subject of much investigation; but, unhappily, the materials at the command of explorers have been meagre. An English "Life of the Count Cagliostro" was published by Stockham, Bond Street, 1787, but according to Carlyle, who is entitled to speak with authority, it deserves to be "spurned and torn into pipe matches." The *Mémoires pour le Comte de Cagliostro*, 1786, are, we believe, quite fabulous. The *Lettre du Comte de Cagliostro au Peuple Anglais*, which was published about the same period in London, is a mere string of falsehoods. A brief life of the Count, written at Rome, and translated into French in the year 1791, under the title of *Vie de Joseph Balsamo, connu sous le Nom de Comte Cagliostro*, is, we believe, a genuine document, although it was written by a stupid person, of whom Carlyle speaks scornfully, as the "wooden man." From this life, and from Carlyle's admirable essay, we derive the materials of our sketch. Cagliostro, or to use his real name, Joseph Balsamo, was the son of a small shopkeeper, and was born in a blind alley at Palermo, Sicily, in the year 1743. His parents were very poor, although they appear to have had relatives who were tolerably well to do. The boy, however, was permitted to play in the streets and alleys of Palermo, and soon developed a remarkable talent for every species of juvenile vice. He was a liar almost as soon as he could speak, and was as expert a thief as any of his age in the city. The father dying whilst Joseph was yet in petticoats, the charge of his education devolved upon a maternal uncle, who sent

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him to school, and afterwards obtained him admission as a novice to the Convent of Cartigirone. Here he was entrusted to the keeping of the convent apothecary, and, under his care, the lad studied chemistry and alchemy, laying, indeed, the foundation for the Masonic and Medical quackeries for which he was afterwards famous. The discipline of the convent proved too severe for Balsamo, who was too lazy to work, but quite ready to eat whenever opportunity was offered for the indulgence of his vast carnal appetite. Punishment, admonition and fasting having had no effect upon the obdurate youth, he was expelled in disgrace, and once more he played the part of scoundrel upon town in the streets of Palermo. His career was now of the vilest. He became a pander, fortune teller and forger, until the city having become too hot to hold him, he retired to Naples, and ultimately to Rome, where he obtained a meagre subsistence by the sale of prints. At Rome he married Lorenza Feliciani, the daughter of a tradesman, and this lady afterwards figured in all his impostures as the Countess Seraphina. She was a handsome, buxom woman, and played the part assigned to her with great skill. From Rome the scoundrel fled to Venice, Marseilles, Madrid, Cadiz and Brussels. At each of these places he appeared as a real noble, the Marquis Peligrini, and finally casting this disguise, he assumed the title of Count Alessandro di Cagliostro, the famous physician, the restorer of youth, the discoverer of the beautifying water, and of the wine of Egypt, a love-philtre, concocted of cantharides. In the year 1776 the Count visited England, and obtained initiation into the primary secrets of Freemasonry. He is said to have joined a Lodge of low social rank, and, with his wife, who was also initiated, he passed through the grades of Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason, for the small fee of five guineas.

Masonry appears to have opened up a new field for the genius of Cagliostro; he is said to have purchased, of a bookseller, some manuscripts belonging to a man named George Crofton, in which some fanciful theories of Egyptian Masonry were set forth. Having mastered these, the Count, to use the language of Carlyle, proceeded to "blow with his new five guinea bellows; having always occasion to raise the wind." A vast scheme of high Masonic science was concocted, which was to renovate society, and place his followers on a level with the old sages and philosophers of the East. He promised to conduct his dupes to perfection, "by means of a physical and moral regeneration; to enable them by the former (or physical) to find the prime matter or philosopher's stone, and the acacia which consolidates in man the forces of the most vigorous youth, and renders him immortal; and, by the latter (or moral), to procure them a Pentagon, which shall restore man to his primitive state of innocence, lost by original sin. He maintained that this Egyptian Masonry was instituted by Enoch and Elias, who propagated it in differents parts of the world; though, in time, it lost much of its purity and splendour. By degrees the Masonry of men had been reduced to pure buffoonery; and that of women had been almost entirely destroyed. Till, at last, the zeal of the Grand Cophta (so are the high priests of Egypt named), had signalised itself by restoring the Masonry of both sexes to its pristine lustre." The construction of the Pentagon, which was to abolish original sin, was a serious affair. On a solitary mountain, which was to be called Sinai, a pavilion, with twelve sides and three stories, was to be erected to be named Sion. In every side of this edifice there must be a window. Twelve Master Masons, each at a window, with Cagliostro in the midst of them, were to go through various formalities, fasts and vigils, until the divine Pentagon was obtained. Cagliostro declared himself to be the Grand Cophta or high priest of this system of Egyptian Masonry, and the most solemn acts of worship were paid to him. He professed to have authority over the Angels; he was invoked on all occasions, and everything was done by virtue of his power, which he declared to be immediately derived from God. No religion was excluded from the Egyptian society; but members of all sects were admitted; the belief in the existence of the Supreme Being and in the immortality of the soul alone being essential. The "brothers" who were elevated to the rank of Masters took the names of the ancient Prophets, while the women adopted those of the Sibyls. The ceremony of initiation, as described by Carlyle, is too lengthy and too ridiculous for quotation. Every expedient was adopted to terrify the novice, who was kept for twenty-four hours in a vault, lighted only by three sepulchral lamps, which gave forth a dying glimmer. Phantoms trailing mortuary veils crossed the cell, and sank into caverns. Others, with garments dripping blood, and armed with swords, stripped the novice, and threw his garments upon a funeral pile, where they were burnt. Sculls grinned at the victim from the walls; a heap of skeletons in the centre of the vault formed a sort of altar, on both sides of which were piled books, some containing menaces against the perjured, others the deadly narrative of the vengeance which the Invisible Spirit had exacted. At the close of the ceremonial a trembling voice pierced the vault (that of Cagliostro himself), and articulated the formula of the oaths that were to be sworn, and the novice then rose up a chosen member of the Grand Mystery of Egyptian Masonry.

Cagliostro, having made good his position as an apostle of the Craft, travelled, and was received with enthusiasm everywhere. The Grand Lodges of Europe flung wide their doors to him, and he was regarded as an honoured guest. He lectured on his system to the brotherhood, and expounded his mysteries in a language made up of half the dialects of the Continent. His talk was the poorest claptrap, but it was received with awe and wonder. He founded his Egyptian Lodges in various cities of Europe, and drove a roaring trade in his Beauty Waters, Life Drops, and Secret Favours or Love Philtres. In the year 1780 he erected his Pavilion in St. Petersburg, but the police having some suspicions he was compelled to fly; and at Warsaw, where he attempted to form his Pentagon, he was exposed by a Count M—, who wrote a pamphlet, entitled "Cagliostro Unmasked." Not in the least dismayed by these reverses, the shameless villain made his appearance at Strasburg, where he lived in great state, and contrived to impose upon the Cardinal de Rohan, with whom he resided some time in the character of an honoured guest. The disturbed state of France however rendered his position anything but secure, and the Cardinal having been consigned to the Bastille, Cagliostro fled to Boulogne. In 1786 he again visited London, and resided in Sloane-street, where he drove his old trade with the Egyptian pills, and during his leisure composed his lying "*Lettre au Peuple Anglais*," in which his acts of benevolence and his unheard of persecutions are fully set forth. A curious copper plate etching,* which was published in November of this year, records a fact in the life of the arch-quack, which is worthy of special mention. It seems that on the 1st November, Cagliostro visited the Lodge of Antiquity, and supped with the brethren. The meal was a frugal one, costing but three shillings per head, wine and punch included. In the course of the evening a certain Bro. Mash, an optician, "instead of giving a song, performed the part of a travelling quack, which Count Cagliostro taking as if aimed at himself, he left the Lodge in dudgeon, highly displeased at the entertainment of the company." De Morande, the Editor of a French Journal, "*Le Courrier de l'Europe*," published in London, made it his business to attack and expose the impostor, who, finding his position untenable, again fled to Europe. After spending some time in obscurity, he entered Rome in May 1789, and had the audacity to set up his Egyptian Lodge under the very nose of the Pope. He was detected by the officers of the "Holy Inquisition," and lodged in the Castle of St. Angelo. Here he languished for eighteen months, and was then condemned to imprisonment for life, his manuscript of Egyptian Masonry being burnt by the common executioner. Four years afterwards Cagliostro was found dead in the prison of St. Leo.

Carlyle tells us that one of the most authentic documents preserved of him is the picture of his visage. It was, he says, "A most portentous face of scoundrelism, a fat, snub, abominable face, dew-lapped, flat-nosed, greasy, full of greediness, sensuality, ox-like obstinacy, a forehead impudent, refusing to be ashamed, and then two eyes turned up seraphically-languishing, as in divine contemplation and adoration, a touch of quiz too; on the whole, perhaps, the most perfect quack face produced by the eighteenth century. There he sits, and seraphically languishes, with this epigraph:—

"De l'Amé des Humains reconnaissez les traits:
Tous ses jours sont marquée par de nouveaux bienfaits,
Il prolonge la vie, il secourt l'indigence;
Le plaisir d'être utile est seul sa récompense."

* A copy of this very rare print is in the possession of Bro. W. Spencer, and forms a part of the unique collection of Masonic treasures to which we have already referred in these columns, and upon which Bro. Spencer so justly prides himself.

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OBJECTING "ON PRINCIPLE."

WE knew a man once who admitted everything—with a qualification or proviso. "It's a sultry day!" we have said to him—thermometer 90deg. in the shade. "Well—yes—but there's an occasional breath of air"—there had not been one for a good twenty-four hours—"which makes it very pleasant." Or, "Nice wine this!" over a glass of '34 port—genuine, not 34s a dozen. "Yes, but—I should have liked it fruitier." Or, again, Pretty girl, Miss—" nose perfectly straight, be it remarked. "Yes, but her nose is too *retroussé*. Sometimes, we fear, we outraged his sense of propriety not a little, as thus:—"This would be a magnificent wine, were it just a *little* more fruity"— same '34 port—"Yes—well—but it is almost too fruity, to my taste." "But, my dear fellow, you said the very reverse yesterday of the very same vintage." "Ah! but they are a little different." "Not at all, both '34." "Ah! but—" and we laughed, and he got angry, till he had taken another glass, and the subject was changed.

"How absurd!" says the reader. "Just so," say we. How very absurd that a man could never venture on a downright opinion about even the most trivial matter, but he must add some qualification, some petty reservation. And how absurd it is to find men objecting to even the simplest and most reasonable proposition, as they say, "on principle. "I vote we have a new punchbowl," says a member of the Jolly Tipplers, at one of their club meetings, "It did very well when we mustered some five and twenty members, but we are nearer fifty now. We have plenty of funds, and it is a great nuisance having to order a fresh brew so often, so I vote we have a bigger one." "I oppose the proposition, on principle," says old Cantanker. Now, what on earth does old Cantanker mean by "on principle?" He would not, perhaps, be able,—he is not, when closely pressed, found able—to explain his meaning. It may be the idea of a bigger bowl emanated from old Hilarious, a glorious adept in punch making, who is careful in his brewing, nicely blending all the materials together, so as to extract from them that perfectly balanced compound of lemon, sugar, spirit and the other etceteras, which the wise man calleth punch, while old Cantanker likes an extra slice of lemon. This, of course, explains "the principle" of the latter's opposition. Or, perchance it was Tim of the Open Hand, who thinks money should be spent if people can afford it, while old Cantanker is a bit of a screw. Or, it was proposed early in the evening, when other business should have come before the Club; or late in the evening, when the business had been disposed of. Or peradventure old Cantanker's punch was, even for him, a little too acid, or his stomach a little out of order; in short, any number of "peradventures" may be suggested in explanation of this opposition "on principle," but in nine cases out of ten we never heard a valid reason given for it. We take it that when a man objects on principle, he means, "I object, because I object," which is, to say the least, womanish.—"I don't like that Mr. Jones, my dear," says Mrs. Tomkins to her inferior half. "Why not, my love?" asks Tomkins, "Because I don't," says Mrs. Tomkins, and her inferior half subsides into nothing.—We understand a man objecting, on principle, to profusion, to cruelty, to scurrility, or, in fact, to anything worthy of objection. This is not the kind of principle we are questioning, but the petty opposition which even the worthiest, the most modest, or the most reasonable proposal invariably encounters from men of whom old Cantanker is a type. These are the very men who would originate what they object to, had it occurred to them in time. They support, on principle, what emanates from A; they oppose, on principle, the very same suggestion if it emanates from B. In their petty narrow minds they can always find some principle of objection. Now it is a case of personal pique; or, if that were likely to be too apparent to others, there is a time, place, or circumstance ever ready for them to fall back on as a justification for their opposition; to explain this principle they generally escape by the means of some poor prevarication or equivocation. Give a reason—not old Cantanker forsooth, any more than Falstaff did, not even on compulsion. "No; were I at the strappado, or all the racks in the world, I would not tell you on compulsion. Give you a reason! if reasons were as plentiful as blackberries I would give no man a reason on compulsion, I." "On Principle" is added, therefore, in such cases to give an air of respectability to an objection that is worthless, that is absolutely meaningless when any attempt at analysing it is made.

These are not imaginary people, these Cantankers. In every society they are to be met with, urging their frivolous opposition to whatever is found reasonable. We find fewer of such men, perhaps, among Masons, for Masons are, generally speaking, liberal-minded, ready always to adopt a good broad view of things, and contemning what is frivolous and petty. But, even in the Lodge, they are to be met with occasionally. They have not had the courage to cast out the old leaven of pettiness with which their otherwise liberal souls are animated. They have gained but little, or, indeed, almost nothing, by intercourse with the open-handed, sensible Brother. All through life they have opposed everything they did not originate, or which originated with whom they think the wrong person, till even the light of Masonry is powerless to cure them. They have objected "on principle" so long, that objection has at last become the guiding principle of their lives. We never hear a man rise to object "on principle," but we are reminded of the inimitably-drawn picture, described by a certain Mr. Samuel Weller, of the miserable-minded man "as killed his-self on principle." He "saved his money on principle, and wore a clean shirt every day on principle, never spoke to none of his relations on principle"; "had his hair cut on principle vunce a fortnight"; and ate "four crumpets every night for fifteen years on principle." At last, falling ill, he calls in the doctor, who tells him to forego crumpets. Not he. He is told, in answer to his inquiries, that three shillings' worth will kill him. Accordingly, "next morning he gets up, has a fire lit, orders in three shillins' worth o' crumpets, toasts 'em all, eats 'em all, and blows his brains out"—as Sam explains to the astonished Pickwick, "in support of his great principle, that crumpets was wholesome, and to show that he wouldn't be put out of his way for nobody."

SECRECY.

PERHAPS the strongest objection urged by the enemies of the Masonic Order against its existence, arises from the fact that it is essentially a secret institution. Secrecy is, indeed, a most important keystone of the great edifice; but surely no rational mind can ever be brought to hold that secrecy is in itself criminal. The broad Catholic principles which bind and govern the brotherhood are all well-known, all public property, and any man may know them if he will but read. True, the working of the Craft is the great enigma of which the world is ignorant, as indeed it ought to be, for no man has a right to a prying interference in the affairs of his fellow-men. It may seem ridiculous to a thinking mind, to dispute seriously a proposition in itself absurd, but unhappily there are people who often yield to the influence of a subtle train of reasoning without a moment's consideration of the false and deceptive basis whereon it rests.

To begin then, at the beginning—is secrecy a crime? Is not the mind of every man a secret volume, concealed from the eye of his fellow-man? Where is the human breast that is not, to some extent, the repository of secrets? Has not the tongue of man been condemned a thousand times for its imprudent and unnecessary utterances, where it has once for its silence? How often have we not heard men commended for their wisdom and discretion, when the secret of that wisdom and discretion was simply a closed mouth and a silent tongue?

Why, in the name of reason, should the secrets of an orderly and benevolent community dishonour it, when every well-regulated family maintains its secrets and its honour unimpaired? Every government under the sun, no matter what its nature, has its secrets—secrets which it is bound to keep from the people, at least for a time, or it would fail in its purposes, perhaps in its very being. Surely, then, secrecy in itself can be no crime, for as long as a secret is honourably kept peace reigns, virtue is protected, truth lives, character is preserved, and the whole public welfare is safely guarded. "But," our enemies will say, "your secrets are foolish, injurious, subversive of order, mutual confidence and good government;" and by a process of argument, as false and illusive as the proposition whereon it is founded, they go on heaping up vilification and slander against an institution, the very nature of which precludes the possibility of investigation. Groping on, in their ignorance and darkness failing to comprehend and control, they labour to subvert and destroy. As well might they strive with tongue and pen to uproot the timeworn landmarks of that ancient Eastern clime, at once the cradle of the human race, the birthplace of Masonry, and the theatre of an immortal tragedy. How mean in spirit and contemptible in nature must that man be, who traduces, who slanders

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a man or woman he does not know, or who pours the vials of his vindictive wrath upon a house or an institution that he has never been in. And yet, they will tell you, "Oh! it's a secret society and cannot be good." Not good, forsooth, because it has secrets. Not good, because it keeps its affairs to itself, and never prys into those of its neighbours? It is secret, and secrecy is a crime." Then is government criminal, society criminal, people criminal, the world a crime, yea, even the boundless universe itself one vast crime, since its limitless depths hold an infinity of secrets, that the mind of man can no more penetrate nor comprehend than it can control.

But, to return to more familar things, does not every man of sense know that all artists, mechanics and tradesmen have their secrets of trade and business, which they keep to themselves? What artist or photographer will initiate you into the mysteries of his studio? What merchant or man of business will publish his ledger and correspondence, and what writer will tell you the sources of inspiration on which he draws? Every trade, every business and every profession has its secrets, and is not this their unquestioned right? Who will forfeit his reputation for common sense by asserting that there is aught wrong in maintaining such secrets? How often daily do we see the legend "No admittance here except on business," and what but that is written on the portals of the Masonic temple? If such policy were made universal would not the whole world have greater quiet and happiness? How often in life does the soft tongue of hypocrisy tell the secrets which, though true, lead to envy, hatred, misery, broils and death? Indeed it is the publication of the secrets of human littlenesses and human weaknesses that destroys confidence, makes disturbances, creates enemies, and breaks many of the thousand ties which should bind men together.

There are men, who, in their ignorance of life's true philosophy, appear to think that all evil should be exposed and all misery be made public. Were such men wise, were they discreet, in a word, were they Masons, they would know that the grace of Charity, when properly excercised, would enable them to save a soul from death and hide indeed a multitude of evils. But no, they must go out and publish in the highways and from the housetops every fault of their neighbours, making every imaginable addition in order to demonstrate how zealous they are in the causes of truth and morality, as voluntary policemen to protect society. Why, the very world is filled with slanderers and traducers of this sort, who actually make their living of the innocent and unsuspecting, whom they tear to tatters and destroy in order to get their places. Such men are never Masons, and are always to be found foremost in the ranks of those who incessantly condemn and belie our Order and its principles. Against us, however, they are harmless, but against society they are moral cut-throats—the meanest banditti with which the world is cursed.

Secrecy—why it is our safeguard, our bulwark against such, and indeed, "a pillar and tower of strength." Were the secrets of the Masonic Order paraded before the eyes of the world to-morrow, they would make Freemasons, as such, not one bit better, nor the world at large not one jot happier. And under such circumstances, what guarantee could we take from those who, not knowing us, persist in abuse and vilification, that, when they knew as much as we know, they would even then acknowledge that something good come out of Israel after all. The Mason works in secrecy and silence, but not in darkness; for, whether on the floor of the Lodge in the midst of his brethren, or doing his duty in the busy haunts of the work-a-day world, the Light of an All-seeing Eye is ever present, and the sublime assurance that "who so walketh in this Light shall not walk in darkness" continually before him. His labour may indeed be secret, but the fruits of that labour can be no secret to the eye of reason and justice. Since the primal fall of man from the perfection in which the Great Architect of the Universe created him, men have been good and bad, false and true; and since the building of Solomon's Temple, Masons have been good and bad, false and true—but take a true Mason, and if you find not God's noblest work, an honest man, an upright, generous, liberal, sincere and truthful man, then, indeed, is secrecy a crime, our mighty edifice built on a foundation of sand, and its ancient existence a fabled dream.

Judge us by our fruits. Boasting is anti-Masonic, and if we were not Masons, we could afford, like our enemies, to be uncharitable—yea, indignant, and point to the widow relieved, housed and protected, the orphan fed, clothed and educated, saying: Gentlemen, this is the work of a Secret Society.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS are, of all known remedies, acknowledgedly placed in the front rank, on account of their soothing and calmative effects in nervous irritability, restlessness and depression; locally also in irritable and painful ulcerations, abscesses, fistulars, hemorrhoids, carbuncles, and phlegmonous pimples and blotches on the skin. These soothing and calmative properties are exactly those which are necessary, not only temporarily to alleviate pain and suffering, but also to bring about, in the blood vessels, and irritated tissues of the affected parts, that equable action, without which no permanent or effectual cure can be perfected. Throughout the universe these remedies have now established and maintain their reputation, for by their use thousands have been restored to health when all else had failed.

REVIEWS.

All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, 67 Barbican, E.C.

Forty Years of American Life. Second Edition. By T. L. Nichols, M.D. London: Longmans, Green and Co. 1874.

Some of our readers may perhaps have had the good fortune to read this pleasantly written work when it made its first appearance some ten years since. But even to such this re-issue in an altered, and, as the author suggests, in an improved and more compact form, will be very welcome. An old and genial friend, who reappears after a long absence, with something additionally genial about him, is sure of a hearty reception. But if the renewal of an old acquaintance is a source of pleasure, still more proud are we when we contract a new friendship with one so calculated to interest and entertain us as the author of this admirable volume, or rather with the volume itself. With all our insular prejudices, as strongly engrained in us as ever, we English grow daily more and more proud of our American cousins, as we love to call them. National jealousies still animate the two governments, but no one is more sure of a cordial reception in American society then an Englishman, for they are proud of the old country. Nor is an American long a stranger among Englishmen. Once the ice broken, and the *mauvais quart d'heure* of meeting has past, the two get on capitally together. Again, American humour, through it sounds somewhat strange at first, grows upon us by degrees. We soon get accustomed to it, and like it, and probably the works of such humourists as the late Artemus Ward, Bret Hart, and others are as much read, and as often quoted in England as they are in the United States. The first edition of *Forty Years of American Life*, met with an excellent reception, at the hands both of English reviewers and English readers, and we have no doubt whatever, that the present issue will obtain an even greater amount of popularity. We could offer several reasons for our statement, but one will suffice. The book is so capitally written, and so impartially, so conscientiously. He describes the life and habits of the American people, so far as we know, faithfully and temperate, neither exaggerating their faults, nor unduly exalting their virtues. Nor is his narrative truthful only. It has the merit of being written in an eminently pleasing style, so that he must be a very dull reader who cannot extract amusement or instruction from well nigh every chapter. The plan of the book is simple. In the earlier chapters are described the habits of the Americans. Then follow sketches of their most important cities and towns; then of amusements, of the press, of literature, the arts and sciences, politics, and politicians. Then is given a brief summary of the late war, the causes and its results, with a chapter on "The Future of America." There is, too, a Supplement, under the title of "Additaments," and the volume closes with a carefully compiled index of names of persons and places. So much for the manner in which the work is arranged. As to the matter, we are at some loss how best to convey to our readers a full idea of its merits. Dr. Nicholls is a most genial writer. He gives plenty of statistics, plenty of dry matter of fact information, about the wonderful growth of large cities, of the amazing development of American resources, of the material wealth of the country, and the industrial energies of its people. But what in the hands of many writers would be a dull matter of fact narrative, is, in the instance before us, enlivened by abundant anecdote, quaint description, and dry humour. In the chapter on "The Spirit of Seventy-six," the reason why military titles prevail to such an extent in the States is thus accounted for:—

"If my father rose rapidly to the post of colonel, he did not hold it long. There was no pay, and no perquisites, but the glory and the expense increased with the elevation; so he prudently declined to be made a general, and resigned to make way for others. Many resign on being made captains; others, with a shade more of ambition, attain the title of major, while those who can afford the expense become generals, and these titles they always retain. This is the reason why every American of any account has a military title. They pass through some of the grades, and then resign, and are clear of military duty. It is a mode of exemption. In a year or two a man gets the title of captain, and is for ever free from service. Then hundreds of young men are appointed on the military staffs of governors or generals, and all these, after a nominal service of one or two years, retain their titles. In America it is safe to call any decent man—a stage driver or ostler—captain; and any gentlemanly person—a railway conductor or tavern keeper—major or colonel."

The following anecdote, in connection with a Fourth of July meeting, is worth quoting. It occurred during the Harrison Hard Cider campaign at Saratoga:—

"The meeting was very large; several counties assembled. Conspicuous on the platform was a group of white-headed revolutionary soldiers, whom the orators duly celebrated, and who were giving their support to the hero of sundry Indian battle fields. One of the orators, not content with the customary allusions, determined to have something more effective, and addressing one of the venerable patriots said:—

"'You fought in the glorious war of Independence?'

"'Yaas,' said the old man, with a German accent; 'Yaas, I vas in to var.'

"This white-headed veteran was in that glorious contest for our liberties, fellow-citizens, and here he is, ready to fight or to vote for them once more. And now, my venerable friend, who was your commander? What general did you serve under in that great struggle for freedom and independence?'

"'*General Burgoyne!*' was the honest answer; which, after a moment of consternation, was greeted with a shout of laughter."

As illustrating the love of Americans for any thing new, and the eagerness with which any new idea or sensation is worked up, we

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are told, at p. 32, in reference to Dr. Spurzheim and the new system of phrenology introduced into America about 1834, "Phrenology became the rage. Plaster-casts of heads, and lithographs marked with the organs, were sold by thousands. There was a universal feeling of heads. Lecturers went from town to town, explaining the new science, and giving public and private examinations. Periodicals were published to promulgate the new philosophy, and a library of phrenological books was rapidly published. I have no doubt that in a few years after the advent of Dr. Spurzheim, there were more believers of phrenology in the United States than in all the world beside." So it was with Mesmerism, so with Physiology, so with Biology, and so it is now with Spiritualism.

Of drunkenness, which is touched upon in the chapter on "Religion and Morality," we have a very rational explanation as to why it so extensively prevailed, and of the violence of the reaction which set in against drinking, even of the most innocent character. Liquors were cheap, there being no excise on spirits and wines of native manufacture. "Cider was free as water." No wonder then, when everybody invited everybody to drink on the most trivial occasion, that great numbers of people, many of the highest ability and position, fell into habits of drunkenness. "There were drunken lawyers, drunken doctors, drunken members of Congress, drunken ministers, drunkards of all classes, if one may classify a people who claim to be 'free and equal.'" The reaction set in. A temperance movement was begun, and culminated in the Maine Liquor Law, the wisdom of which act, however, does not seem very apparent to Dr. Nichols, who not unjustly thinks it led to much secret drinking, much smuggling, and a general disrespect for law.

The chapter on American "Peculiarities and Eccentricities" will delight every class of reader. Many are already familiar with Yankee eccentricities of speech, but more of them are collected together in this chapter than are generally to be met with in so small a compass. The western vocabulary, in the author's opinion, is even more copious than that of the Yankee proper, in evidence of which the following:—

"A Western man 'sleeps so sound, it would take an earthquake to wake him.' He is in danger 'pretty considerable much,' because 'somebody was down on him, like the whole Missouri on a sandy bar.' He is a 'gone 'coon.' He is down on all 'cussed varmints,' gets into an 'everlasting fix,' and holds that 'the longest pole knocks down the persimmons.' A story 'smells rather tall.' 'Stranger,' he says, 'in bar hunts I am numerous.' He says a pathetic story sunk into his feelings 'like a snagged boat into the Mississippi.' He tells of a person 'as cross as a bar with two cubs and a sore tail.' He 'laughs like a hyena over a dead nigger.' He 'walks through a fence like a falling tree through a cobweb.' He 'goes the whole hog.' He raises 'right smart of corn,' and lives where there is a 'smart chance of bars.' 'Bust me wide open,' he says, 'if I didn't bulge into the creek in the twinkling of a bedpost, I was so thunderin' savagerous.'"

"In the south-west," continues Dr. Nichols, "is found the combination of Western and Southern character and speech. The South-western man was 'born in old Kaintuck, raised in Mississippi, is death on a bar, and smartly on a painter fight! He 'walks the water, out hollers the thunder, drunks the Mississippi,' 'calculates' that he is 'the genuwine article,' and that those he don't like 'aint worth shucks.' He tells of a fellow 'so poor and thin, that he had to lean up agin a saplin to cuss.' He gets 'as savage as a meat-axe.' He 'splurges about,' and 'blows up like a steamboat.'"

The quaintness of American expression is no doubt familar enough to Englishmen. A case in point is the evidence of a witness in a life insurance case, when the death was caused by the blowing up of a steamboat on the Ohio. "The witness knew the missing man. He saw him on the deck of the steamboat just before the explosion. 'When,' asked the lawyer, 'was the last time you saw him?' 'The very last time I ever set eyes on him,' said the careful witness, 'was when the boiler burst, and I was going up, and *I met him and the smoke pipe coming down!*'"

Barnum, of course, is introduced as one sort of a model Yankee. The following adventure of his, is not, we are told in his published autobiography.

"He was on his way up the river from New Orleans, where he had been to spend the winter in some speculation. Some of the sporting gentlemen, who make their home on the river, engaged in the favourite betting game of poker, a bluff or brag game, in which the skill consists in managing so as to have the best cards, or in boldly betting on the worst. It was hard, we think, to beat the great showman in either, but luck was against him, and he was dead broke. He landed at a small town in Mississippi, where he found the chances of winning money at play very small, in consequence of a revival of religion that was going forward. But 'P.T.' had more than one string to his bow. Not long before this time he had been a preacher, as it happened, a Universalist. He announced his profession, and obtained a place to preach, but found his creed anything but popular. The Southerners are orthodox in their religious notions, and like strong doctrine. The revival was attracting crowds to the Presbyterian meeting house. Something had to be done, and the exhibitor of dwarfs and prima donnas was equal to the occasion. He dismissed his small and indifferent congregation, walked over to the Presbyterian meeting, and announced to the astonished and delighted assembly that he had been converted from his errors. There was great rejoicing; he was invited to preach, was rewarded with a good collection, resumed his voyage, and had good luck at poker all the way to St. Louis."

It must be pleasant travelling on a first class Hudson river boat, which, we are told, "is more than four hundred feet long. Its pad-paddle wheels are sixty feet in diameter. It draws only four feet of water, and glides along one of the finest rivers in in the world, through scenery of ever varying beauty and grandeur, at the rate of twenty-four miles an hour. A thousand passengers are lounging in the grand saloons, or reading under the awnings on the promenade deck; but there is no crowd. When the dinner-bell rings they all find seats at the long ranges of tables in the great cabins. They are served with every luxury of the season, from soup and fish to the fruit and ice cream. And the trip of one hundred and sixty miles, including the dinner, has cost seven shillings. I have known it to be as low as five—less than the cost of a very poor meal at an English hotel."

But the American cannot be a pleasant fellow-traveller—as regards his spitting propensities at all events. He is refined, no doubt; polite to ladies, giving them always the best seats in theatres and on the cars, but too many of them indulge in this odious habit of spitting, so that in any public vehicle and place of amusement you are liable to this nuisance.

One more sketch and we have done. The recognised hero of the Texan War of Independence—General Sam. Houston was, says Dr. Nichols, "an extraordinary character. A few months after his marriage with the daughter of an ex-Governor of Tennessee, he abandoned her, without giving a reason, and went to live among the Cherokee Indians, beyond the Mississippi, by whom he was adopted as a chief. In Texas he was known as an inveterate gambler, a drunkard, a liar, whose word could never be trusted, and, as I have been assured, was as great a coward as he was a rascal. His adopted Indian fellow citizens gave him the name of 'Big Drunk.' But he was tall, handsome, plausible, eloquent in the highest degree, and swore with equal profanity and sublimity—swore as a Homer or a Milton might. This man, who was often seen dirty, drunken, living with a band of Indians and squaws, borrowing half-a-dollar of any stranger who would lend it, and losing it the next moment at the gaming-table—so utterly debased, and so utterly cowardly and dishonest, had yet that gift of eloquence by which he could control the people as he willed, and induce them to elect him to the highest offices in their gift.

"General Houston late in life married a young and beautiful wife, who had influence enough to make him a teetotaller, a Church member, and a respectable member of society."

It is impossible to give more than an idea of the vast amount of valuable information, as well as genuine fun, which is to be met with in these pages. Dr. Nichols, too, is an excellent hand at describing scenery as well as people, so that the reader will glean much, not only of the American people in different of the United States, but of the principal towns, rivers, mountains, &c. With these remarks we take leave of Dr. Nichols, with hearty thanks for the agreeable hours we have spent in the perusal of his narrative. We only hope he will be able to fulfil the promise he makes in his preface, and that we may shortly renew our acquaintance with him by the medium of his "Twelve Years of English Life, with Insular and Continental experiences."

Le Monde Maçonnique for February and March contains, besides the usual budget of news of French Freemasonry, a very interesting account of the progress of the Craft in Peru, "*Le Mouvement Maçonnique au Pérou*," an address to Initiates, "*Discours aux Initiés*," and a capital London Letter by Bro. H. Valleton.

The Scottish Freemasons' Magazine (Part 6) contains, among other contributions, an excellent article on "Progress in Masonry" and "Music VI by Bro. J. B." "The Diary kept by Bro. John Peters R.W.M. Royal Arch Lodge, No. 153, Pollokshaws, during a pleasure trip extending over 14,000 miles," will interest many. The present number has a Supplement, containing many items of Masonic Intelligence, for which the ordinary limits of the periodical were hardly sufficient.

The visit of the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs to the City of London Lodge, which, by an unfortunate transposition of dates, was stated last week to have been fixed for Saturday, the 13th instant, will be paid this evening, and is looked forward to with great interest, as a most important event in connection with Freemasonry in the City. It was stated at the Lodge, on Saturday, that the arrangements were already completed, that a considerable number of eminent members of the Craft would be present, including a number of present and past Grand Officers, besides representatives of Grand Lodges of Scotland, Ireland, and in America. The Lodge will be opened punctually at 4 p.m., in the Pillar Room, and the banquet will take place in the Large Hall, at six o'clock. The band of the Grenadier Guards will perform a selection of music during dinner, and several eminent vocalists will enliven the intervals between the toasts with glees and songs.

Bro. Headon, the retiring W.M. of the City of London Lodge, has announced the highly-gratifying intelligence that his list, as Steward for the next Festival of the Girls' School, to be held during the month of May, already exceeds the sum of 170 guineas.

CLUB HORSE PLAYING CARDS.—Mogul Quality, picked 1s 3d per pack, 14s per dozen packs. Do. seconds 1s per pack, 11s per dozen packs. If by post 1½d per pack extra. Cards for Piquet, Bésique, Ecarté, &c., Mogul Quality 10d per pack, 9s per dozen packs.—London: W. W. Morgan, 67 Barbican, E.C.

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We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.

—:o:—

THE BENEVOLENT ASPECT OF FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The letter in last week's issue, from a "Past Master," entitled, "The Benevolent Aspect of Freemasonry," has touched upon a point I have been anxiously waiting to see advocated in your admirable CHRONICLE.

I would indeed be glad, with your correspondent, if more brethren subscribed to our excellent Institutions, but the fact that there are many who do not do so does not arise from indifference, or from any desire on their part to withhold a liberal hand.

Masons, when properly appealed to, will, and do give handsomely; their flow of charity may suffer delay, it is not lost, and only waits a genial opportunity "to awaken and again roll onward."

Your correspondent says, that the payment of the trifling sum of one shilling per week will enable a brother to have a voice in the government of our noble Institutions, but he does not say *how* it may be done; and as there must be a large number of our brethren who would be glad to subscribe to those Institutions in such an easy manner, I think, Sir, that the method of conducting the associations (by which the Life-Governorships are obtained) cannot be too widely known, so that they may spring up wherever Masons are found in sufficient numbers and willing to aid our Institutions.

Having had some years' experience in the formation and working of these associations, I venture to give your readers an outline of the rules by which they are governed, and also to show what has been done through their instrumentality for the good of our Institutions.

In the first place, permit me to render honour where I believe it to be due, by recording the fact that the originator of these associations is our esteemed Bro. N. Wingfield, Vice-President of the Royal Masonic Institution for Aged Freemasons, and Widows of Freemasons, and upon the Rules which he and his colleagues framed, those that govern many similar associations were formed.

1. Each Association should have a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, a good *working* Committee and Secretary.

2. The object of each Association is to obtain for its members a Life Governorship in one of the Royal Masonic Institutions.

3. The meetings should be once a month, and the subscriptions not less than one shilling per week.

4. When the Treasurer is in possession of ten guineas, a Life Governorship shall be drawn for, the successful candidate having the privilege of selecting to which Institution the sum shall be paid in his name, or he may, if he wish, transfer his draw to a member about to become a Steward at either of the Festivals.

5. Any member in arrears one month not allowed to participate in the draw.

6. A promise in writing to be given by the successful member to pay the remaining portion of his subscription.

7. No brother to be admitted a member except by payment of all subscriptions that may have accrued since the commencement of the Association.

8. Any member six months in arrear to forfeit all money paid in by him.

9. Any member dying before completing his subscription, all sums paid in by him shall be returned to his representatives (if desired) as soon as convenient; if the member deceased had obtained a Life Governorship, then as soon as its transfer can be effected.

One Association to which I belonged consisted of 116 members, out of which twelve only were defaulters, the other 104 obtained their Life Governorships. The total sum paid in by the members in four years amounted to £1,065, the working expenses for the same period £13 11s 2d. During the existence of the Association three deaths of members occurred, and the amounts paid in by each were returned, without any deduction, to their widows or children.

Sufficient has been stated to show what good can be done by earnestness and combination, and I sincerely hope that by your kindness in spreading abroad these facts, that brethren will be induced to set going many of these Associations, and thereby render to our Institutions that aid they require, and which they justly deserve.

I am, Sir and Bro., yours truly and fraternally,

JNSH.

APPOINTMENT OF STEWARDS FOR THE FORTHCOMING INSTALLATION.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I notice that at the forthcoming installation of the Prince of Wales as M. W. Grand Master it has been considered desirable to appoint an additional number of brethren to assist the Executive, and that accordingly *each Lodge in the metropolis* will have the opportunity of nominating a Steward for that purpose. Now, I think, seeing the large number of brethren in the provinces, and the certainty that all the large centres of industry will be very numerously represented at His Royal Highness's Installation, some recognition of Provincial Lodges should also be made.

I suggest to the Officers of Grand Lodge that each Province should also have the privilege of nominating Stewards, the number to be regulated by the total of members in the various Lodges constituting the Province. It would then be a matter for arrangement and adjustment by the respective Provincial Grand Masters and their officers, and the brethren elected as Stewards would, I feel certain, render valuable aid at the Albert Hall. I do not write in any spirit of jealousy, but because it seems to me that this is an occasion when Provincial and London Masons should act unitedly, and I trust no insidious distinctions will be made.

Yours fraternally,

P.M. AND PAST PROV. OFFICER.

Portsmouth, 15th March 1875.

ASSISTANCE TO MASONIC CHARITIES.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—It would perhaps, have been better had "A Lover of Fair Play" sufficiently informed himself of all the facts of the case. Evidently actuated by the best of motives, he impulsively rushes into print without giving the subject due consideration. He seems to confound the "Benevolent Association," possibly first suggested by our excellent Bro. Terry, with the scheme which emanated from Bro. Constable, of issuing a number of tickets at 1s each. In the Associations, of which I am glad to state there are now a goodly number, both in London and the provinces, each member subscribes 1s per week, and when a sufficient amount has accumulated a Life Governorship is balloted for. Bro. Constable on the contrary had I believe 4,000 tickets printed, which he disposes of at 1s each. The whole of this sum will be divided into amounts for Life Governorships, and all will be balloted for on a stated day. Bro. Terry's introduction of the Associations encountered no opposition, Bro. Constable's drawing scheme was at first strongly disapproved of, but its beneficial effects were so manifest that similar methods of assisting local and Masonic charities have since been adopted in Ireland, Lancashire, Cheshire, and, I have no doubt, in other places.

I am however inclined to think that neither Bro. Terry nor Bro. Constable care very much upon whom the merit of originator is bestowed. Their aim, I take it, is to assist the charities. The noble pursuit of such labour of love is sufficiently rewarded in the consciousness of duty well done, and they can well afford to dispense with "the shadow of a great name."

Yours fraternally, E. GOTTHEIL.

ERRATUM.—The sum mentioned in Bro. Gottheil's letter, which appeared last week, as having been contributed by Grand Lodge to the Patriotic Fund was, by a typographical error, stated as £4,000, whereas the amount was £1,000.

TICKETS FOR THE INSTALLATION.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR,—The subject nearest our hearts at this moment is the Installation of the M.W.G.M. Naturally, every Mason is anxious to be present, and the question arises where shall the necessary room be found? Now the Royal Albert Hall, large as it is, will only accommodate a given number of persons, and we think we are within the mark if we state that the number of applicants for admission will exceed the number admissible in the proportion of two to one. Under these circumstances, it is clearly desirable that some judgment should be exercised in forwarding the applications for admission to Grand Secretary. Brethren should make up their minds, at the earliest opportunity, whether they can, and if so, will go—assuming, of course, the Open Sesame falls to their lot; otherwise, if every one puts his name down as willing to go, who would like or may be able to go, the number of applicants will be abnormally swelled, and the difficulty proportionately increased of distributing tickets in anything like a fair proportion. Only those who *can* and *will* go should return their names to the W.M.

Yours fraternally, P.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All Letters and communications must be addressed to the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, *67 Barbican, London, E.C.*

P.M. FROM AUSTRALIA.—We regret the inconvenience caused you; we are endeavouring to make such arrangements as will obviate these errors.

WEST END.—Many thanks for your communication. We will endeavour to comply.

A. B. C.—Our attention has been directed to the announcement.

L. L. D.—The Provinces will nominate two Stewards each.

LIFEBOAT ENDOWMENT FUND.

Amount previously acknowledged	£3	3	0
Strong Man Lodge, No. 45	1	1	0

NOTICE.—A MEETING of the Shareholders of the Freemason's Chronicle Publishing Company Limited will be held at the Office of the Company, 67 Barbican, London, E.C., on TUESDAY, the 23rd inst., at 6 p.m.

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MONEY MARKET AND CITY NEWS.

FRIDAY.

In view of the approaching Easter holidays, and the excitement caused by the recent failures, the course of business this week has been materially interfered with. Nothing could have transpired to cause greater disturbance in the Money Market at the present time, than the suspension of such a firm as J. C. Im Thurm and Co., the worst of it is, in such cases, that smaller houses are brought down in the crash with the larger, and, unfortunately, no one knows where it will end. It so happened that the event which caused all this disturbance has been expected for some time, so that City people were not taken quite so much by surprise, and to this may be owing the calmness with which the news was received. The announcement, and its probable effects, affords abundant food for speculators, of course not only here but abroad, where the extensive transactions of the firm in question were largely directed. A great deal of exaggeration will naturally, at such a time, find its way into circulation, but the state of affairs will, it is hoped, turn out more satisfactory than appears at present to be expected. Whether the stability of commercial progress in France will be further strengthened by the change of Ministry, remains to be seen, but this much we do know, that some extraordinary movements have lately taken place on the Paris Bourse. Speculation has been indulged in to an extravagant extent, and the latest report is that two large operators have had to appeal to their creditors; with what result we have yet to learn. That money has been accumulating in Paris to an enormous total everybody knows, hence the mania that has seized upon a section of the community for speculation, to be followed by the usual re-action.

Consols show no material change, although the condition of prices is weaker than before.

The market for foreign securities has been effected more by the advices from Paris than by anything else; the tendency is far from strong, and operations are conducted with an extra amount of caution.

British railway stocks, like other classes of securities, have been sensitive and affected by the same causes, viz., the recent commercial failures; the extra holiday traffic will, no doubt, bring increased receipts, and we may possibly see a considerable improvement in the price current before long.

Most of the American obligations remain without feature, although telegraph rates have declined, as have also Hudson's Bay shares.

It appears, from a parliamentary return just issued, that in the year ending the 30th September last, 31,778,474 lbs. of sugar were consumed in breweries in London, and 47,279,293 lbs. in the provinces; 820,173 lbs. in Scotland, and 6,140,457 lbs. in Ireland, making a total consumption in breweries of 86,018,397 lbs.

The annual general meeting of the Army and Navy Co-operative Society will be held on the 31st instant. It will be proposed to raise the capital from £30,000 to £60,000.

We find, from the returns that are forthcoming with regard to the trade in Australian meat, that a remarkable amount of steadiness has characterised the trade in preserved meats during 1874. The importations for 1874 were 13,270 tons, valued at £751,709, as against 13,061 tons, valued at £733,848, in 1873—and 17,601 tons, valued at £906,680, in 1872. This increase in the importations during 1874 was owing to the quantities received from various new fields of production; for, although many of the meat preserving companies in Australia and New Zealand ceased or slackened operations, new establishments have been formed in South America, Canada, California, Texas, and other portions of the United States, the produce of which have more than counterbalanced the deficit in the supplies from the Antipodes; and as the quality in most cases is good, and the prices realised satisfactory to producer, there is every prospect of shipments from these places during the coming year continuing very large.

The North British Railway dividend is officially announced at the rate of 1½ per cent. per annum for the half year, against *nil* at the corresponding period of 1873.

The Hamburg American Steam Packet Company and the German Transatlantic Steamship Company have resolved upon amalgamating their business so far as regards the traffic to and from America.

The Committee of Inquiry into the scheme for constructing a tunnel between France and England has held a sitting, and adopted the tariff for goods and passengers proposed by M. Michel Chevalier. The construction of the tunnel itself is only a matter of detail.

The second yearly report of the Silber Light Company (to 27th February) shows that after deducting expenses, and writing off 10 per cent. for depreciation, and £500 (equalling 20 per cent.) off preliminary expenses, there remains a net profit of £8,509. A dividend is recommended for the year, at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, free of income tax, which will leave £431 to be carried forward.

The London and North Western Company propose to create an additional capital of £2,075,000 perpetual five [per cent. preference stock, to be offered to the proprietors of ordinary stock. It is understood that the stock will not be offered to the proprietors at present, but probably some two or three months hence.

The annual report of the North British and Mercantile Insurance Company, to be submitted to the meeting on the 2nd of April, states that £824,941 net was received in premiums, and £455,999 paid in losses in the fire department alone. A third of the profit is set aside as a special reserve, and a dividend of 30s declared on the paid-up capital, 12s 6d of which was paid last October. The sum of £108,607 is carried to "rest" account as undivided profit, making, with the special reserve aforesaid, a total fund in the fire department of £827,238. In the life department 873 new policies were issued, insuring £672,177.

The following statement shows the receipts for traffic on the undermentioned railways for the past week, as compared with the corresponding week in 1874:—

Railway.	Miles open. 1875	Receipts. 1875 £	1874 £
Caledonian	787	—	—
Glasgow and South Western	315½	15,550	15,228
Great Eastern	768	40,305	39,348
Great Northern	517	52,788	47,571
Great Western	1,525	93,366	95,611
Lancashire and Yorkshire	430	61,218	59,901
London and Brighton	376½	23,011	22,085
London, Chatham and Dover	153½	14,893	13,893
London and North Western	1,582½	156,968	155,328
London and South Western	—	29,503	28,650
London, Tilbury and Southend	45	1,361	1,267
Manchester and Sheffield	259½	29,544	28,256
Midland	944½	107,338	100,143
Metropolitan	8	9,090	8,674
" " District	8	5,132	4,273
" " St. John's Wood	1¼	480	483
North British	339	39,112	35,752
North Eastern	1,379	116,196	114,964
North London	13	6,854	6,658
North Staffordshire Railway	190	9,653	9,646
" " Canal	118	1,721	1,682
South Eastern	350	26,992	28,477

He that departs from the Lodge with his heart untouched by the light of our Institution is not a true Mason. He may be trimmed and squared, the workmen may have polished him until his illumined mind sparkles with the rays of intelligence, but the builders daub with untempered mortar, and their edifices will soon show the imperfect material.

EARLSWOOD ASYLUM.

Our respected Bro. the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor presided on Thursday evening at the annual dinner in aid of the funds of the Asylum for Idiots at Earlswood. After the toast of the Queen had been duly honoured, the Lord Mayor proposed the toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the Asylum," and, in the remarks which followed, mentioned that the number of inmates in the Asylum was 600, and pointed out that, although the number of applicants each year was upwards of 200, they were only able to select 40. He also stated that the committee were compelled to appeal to the public for support, as the Asylum was somewhat in arrear. The Secretary read the list of subscriptions for the evening, which amounted to £2293. The other toasts included those of "The Chairman," "the Board of Management," "The Sheriffs and Corporation of the City of London," "The Ministers of Religion," "The Ladies," and "The "Stewards." During the evening a selection of vocal music was given, under the direction of Mr. F. Kingsbury, the artistes being Miss Annie Sinclair, Miss Marion Severn, Mr. Pearson, Mr. Kingsbury, and Mr. Farquharson. Mr. H. Harker officiated as toastmaster.

The London School Board, however much good it may be effecting educationally, is evidently falling into the ill-graces of Vestries and ratepayers. The amount of money that is being expended in the erection of New Schools has a disturbing influence on the minds of many. People know there are already Schools in most of the localities where new ones are being erected by the Board, at the expense of the ratepayers. They naturally ask, why not utilise the old schools and save our pockets? By all means build new schools where there are none already existing, but why multiply them. We ask likewise—Why?

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THE THEATRES, &c.

HAYMARKET.—A FAIR ENCOUNTER, HOME and THE SERIOUS FAMILY.

ADELPHI.—This evening, at 7.0, SARAH'S YOUNG MAN, NICHOLAS NICKLEBY, and the BELLES OF THE KITCHEN.

PRINCESS'S.—ROUND THE WORLD IN EIGHTY DAYS.

LYCEUM.—At 6.30, FISH OUT OF WATER. At 7.45, HAMLET.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.0, TWENTY MINUTES WITH A TIGER. AT 7.30, THE TWO ORPHANS.

STRAND.—At 7.0, FARCE. At 7.30, OLD SAILORS. At 9.15, LOO AND THE PARTY WHO TOOK MISS.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 7.45, SWEETHEARTS and SOCIETY.

GAIETY.—This evening, SELECTIONS FROM SHAKESPEARE.

GLOBE.—LADY AUDLEY'S SECRET and BLUE BEARD.

ST. JAMES'S Will open Saturday, 27th inst., under the management of Miss Litton. BRIGHTON and CONRAD AND MEDORA.

ROYALTY.—At 7.30, A GOOD NIGHT'S REST. At 8.0, CRYPTOCONCHOIDSYPHONOTOMATA. At 9, LA PERICHOLE.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.0, A WHIRLIGIG. At 7.45, OUR BOYS. At 10, A REGULAR FIX.

CHARING CROSS.—At 7.30, MR. JOFFIN'S LATCH KEY. At 8.15, THE NEW MAGDALEN.

OPERA COMIQUE.—This evening, at 7.30, FAST COACH and COMIC OPERA.

ALHAMBRA.—This evening, at 7.15, THE TWO BONNYCASTLES. At 8.0, WHITTINGTON. On Monday, Mr. J. Baum's Grand, Farewell Benefit.

CRITERION.—LES PRES SAINT GERVAIS, &c.

COURT.—At 7.30, SHORT AND SWEET. At 8.30, LADY FLORA.

SURREY.—This evening, THE TWO POLTS, ARRAH-NA-POGUE, and CRUSOE THE SECOND.

PHILHARMONIC.—OPERA.

HENGLER'S CIRQUE.—EQUESTRIAN PERFORMANCE. This evening, last of the season.

SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE.—TURPIN'S RIDE TO YORK, ALADDIN AND THE WONDERFUL LAMP, &c., every Evening until Wednesday (last night) at 7.0, and Monday, and Wednesday at 2.0.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—This Day, CONCERT, BILLIARD MATCH, &c. On Tuesday, OTHELLO. On Good Friday, Sacred Concert. Open daily, AQUARIUM, PICTURE GALLERY, &c.

POLYTECHNIC.—STAR WATCHING AND THE TRANSIT OF VENUS; THE MYSTIC SCROLL; CHEMICAL MARVELS; THE ISLE OF WIGHT AND ITS LEGENDS, &c. Open at 12.0 and 7.0.

EGYPTIAN (LARGE) HALL.—Dr. LYNN, at 3.0 and 8.0.

EGYPTIAN HALL.—MASKELYNE AND COOKE, at 3.0 and 8.0.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL, Langham Place.—Mr. and Mrs. GERMAN REED at 8.0. Thursday and Saturday at 3 only.

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THE MASONIC AND MILITARY ORDERS OF THE RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE, K.H.S., AND ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST.

THE SECOND ANNUAL RED CROSS BALL will take place, under the auspices of the Grand Council, at WILLIS'S ROOMS, St. James's, on WEDNESDAY, the 31st March, the surplus funds to be devoted to the Masonic Charities and the Grand Almoner's Fund.

COOTE AND TINNEY'S BAND.

Dancing to commence at Nine o'clock.

Double Ticket (to admit a Lady and Gentleman, or Two Ladies), 30s; Lady's Ticket, 16s; Gentleman's Ticket, 18s 6d; to include Refreshments during the evening, and a Champagne Supper.

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Offices: 17 GREAT JAMES STREET, BEDFORD ROW, W.C.
10th March 1875.

FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE
67 BARBICAN, E.C.

WEEKLY RECORD.

ONCE in the full swing of work, and there are few assemblies which get through their duties more thoroughly or more expeditiously than the British Parliament. Fancy motions occasionally obstruct the performance of more useful labour; but we need not grudge noble Lords and Honourable Members a certain amount of latitude, so that they may have at least an opportunity of airing their special theories about nothing in particular. It pleases them, it pleases their friends or constituents, and it harms nobody. In the House of Lords on Friday last, the Duke of Richmond introduced a measure in connection with agricultural holdings in Ireland, which was subsequently read a first time, and the second reading of which is set down for an early day after Easter. On Monday the Land Titles and Transfer Bill advanced a stage further; the report of amendments relating thereto being accepted. Lord Selborne endeavoured to get a clause inserted to the effect that registration on sales of fee-simple should be made compulsory after three years, but he failed in his attempt, being beaten, on division, by 39 non-contents to 15 contents. At Tuesday's sitting, the Earl of Carnarvon moved the second reading of the Pacific Islanders Protection Bill, the object of which is to regulate the labour traffic in the Pacific, and put an end to the atrocities which have been committed there by unscrupulous persons. After a few words of approval from the Earl of Kimberley, the motion was acceded to. The rest of the evening was devoted to Lord Lyttelton's Increase of the Episcopate Bill, which passed the final stage, after a long and somewhat straggling debate. On Thursday Lord Chelmsford brought up the subject of the Marriage Laws, and suggested that the Report of the Royal Commissioners on those laws should not be consigned to the limbo of embryo legislation. The Lord Chancellor pointed out that certain of their recommendations would meet with opposition, and declined to hold out any prospect of immediate legislation. Lord Selborne offered a few remarks, and the House shortly after adjourned.

The House of Commons had, as usual, a somewhat prolonged sitting on Friday, a day set apart for the discussion of all kinds of odds and ends of motions. Thus Mr. Rathbone brought under notice the necessity there is for a better consolidation of Acts of Parliament. Then Sir J. M'Kenna introduced the subject of the incidence of Imperial Taxation in Ireland, but the Government and the House failed to participate in the honourable baronet's views, and his motion therefore fell through. Next came the question of Marine Insurance, anent which Mr. Brassey was desirous that a Royal Commission of Inquiry into the subject should be appointed, but the Government saw no necessity for any such appointment and the subject dropped. Then Ireland came again to the front. Mr. O'Connor Power

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thought the time had arrived when all Irish State prisoners might be released, but the Government differed with the honourable gentleman, so, for the present at least, the State prisoners will remain in *statu quo*. The remaining item of importance was a motion by the Home Secretary for the introduction of a Bill to enable the Ecclesiastical Commissioners to create a new Bishopric of St. Albans. The motion and subsequently the first reading were agreed to, and soon after the House adjourned till Monday, on which day the most important business transacted was the partial advancement through Committee of Mr. Hardy's Regimental Exchanges Bill. Great opposition was offered to its progress, but the Government were too strong, and the various amendments were in turn defeated, the debate being adjourned to a morning sitting on Tuesday, when the Committee resumed the consideration of the measure at 2 o'clock, as arranged. The debate was very animated, and Mr. Gladstone took a very conspicuous part in it, speaking with his wonted fervour. Mr. Hardy replied, and, on division, the Government carried the day by 259 to 168. Clause 2, which had been so bitterly fought over was then agreed to, as after another division was clause 3, and the Bill emerged from Committee, and was ordered to be reported. At the evening sitting Mr. Anderson moved for a Royal Commission to inquire into the Currency, but his views found little favour with the House, and his motion was rejected by nearly 8 to 1. On Wednesday, Mr. Goschen, who, if not a high authority on Naval tactics, has a sound knowledge of Banking, moved the second reading of the Bankers' Act Amendment Bill. The importance of the subject was fully recognised, and the debate was a highly instructive one, all the most eminent financial members of the House, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Lowe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir J. Lubbock, Dr. L. Playfair, and others, taking part in it. It was afterwards arranged, at the instance of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that the Bill should stand over for the present and that meanwhile a Committee of the House should be appointed to inquire into the matter. On Thursday the House went into Committee on the Artizans' Dwellings Bill after an abortive attempt of Mr. Cawley to get it referred to a Select Committee. Several amendments were offered, but were rejected, and when sundry of the clauses had passed, the Chairman reported progress, and the House resumed. The Regimental Exchanges Bill was then read a third time. In Committee on the Mutiny Bill, some twenty-five clauses were agreed to, and the Chairman again reported progress. A Select Committee on the Corrupt Practices Prevention and Election Petitions Acts was then appointed, and soon after the House rose.

Last week we chronicled the death of an eminent military officer, Sir J. Hope Grant. This week the same duty again devolves upon us, but in the case of F.M. Sir William Gomm, there is this consolation, that he had long passed the allotted span of life, and had attained the very highest rank in his profession. He died, in fact, full of years and full of honours, having been born in 1784, joined the Army in 1794, at the early age of ten, and having seen his first active service in the Expedition to the Helder in 1799 when he was yet only fifteen years of age. He became Captain in 1803, served at the siege of Copenhagen in 1807, and was actively engaged during the whole of the Peninsular War, for his services in which he had received the gold cross, with one clasp for Badajos, Salamanca, Vittoria, San Sebastian, and the Nive, and the silver war medal with six clasps, for Roleia, Vimiera, Corunna, Busaco, Fuentes d'Onoro and Nivelle. Sir William also served in the Waterloo Campaign, as assistant Quartermaster General to Picton's division. For these services he was made a K.C.B., received the medal and the second class of St. Ann of Russia. He subsequently held commands at Jamaica, at the Mauritius, and as successor to Sir Charles Napier in India. In 1863 he became Colonel of the Coldstream Guards, to which regiment he had been transferred in 1814 for his distinguished services in Spain and Portugal. In 1868 he received the *bâton* of Field Marshal, and in 1873 succeeded Sir George Pollock as Constable of the Tower of London. Though in his 91st year, Sir William Gomm was an active and vigorous man both mentally and physically. Thus has passed away one, of the few remaining survivors of the great war, the brother-in-arms of the late Duke of York, Earl Cathcart, Sir John Moore, Duke of Wellington, Sir W. Picton, and who entered the service when it yet contained men who had fought under George II. at Dettingen, Clive at Plassey, and Wolfe at Quebec.

The crisis of our annual Blue fever terminates to-day. For years past it has been the duty of journalists to record that London just before Easter is blue all over. The male section of London humanity, indeed, may be said to be black-and-blue all over, to a greater extent even, though more agreeably so, than a whole host of railway passengers who have been just a little shaken and contused. In most years, even the *Winds blew*, as in duty bound, at the period of the Vernal Equinox. However, the symptoms are not by any means unpleasant. As to the fair sex, the more blue they look, the more we admire them—Masonically and Platonically, of course. No need for the Frenchman of Leicester Square to exclaim, either in anger or in wonderment, *Morbleu!* for a fresh crop of Indigo would almost be needed in order to make us seem more blue than we are. There has even been more blue sky than usual in this somewhat melancholy climate of ours. As to the cause of all this blue mania—the aquatic rivalry of Oxford and Cambridge—we can only repeat what we said last week in the way of prophecy—Blue wins, that's certain. The important question is, which Blue? We will answer this question next week—if, at least, any one is still ignorant of the result of to-day's contest. Yesterday, of course, Lillie Bridge had its special dose of the fever, but at the moment of writing the exact nature of the symptoms, whether favourable to the Light or the Dark, cannot be recorded. There has also been a blue Chess contest—result, as to ourselves, not yet known; and we presume there will be the usual blue Billiards and blue Racquets, though doubts exist as to the former, at least as a public contest.

On Friday last Professor Abel lectured at the Royal Institution, on the very important subject of "Accidental Explosions." In the course of his observations the learned Professor pointed out that most accidents of this kind were traceable to causes which might have been foreseen or guarded against. This is so, undoubtedly. A man sits smoking his pipe on a barrel of gunpowder, and people are not all surprised at his being blown up. A miner goes to work with a naked light, and half-a-score, or, it may be, half-a hundred poor fellows are blown into eternity. It is a great service, of course, to show why it is in these and similar circumstances that explosions occur. It would be a still greater service if anyone could point out a means of compelling people who have to do with explosives to be more careful. What we should like to know is, not how or why explosions occur, but how to make them, humanly speaking, impossible. One class of explosions Professor Abel did not touch upon—explosions of temper. This is a subject of great interest, especially to married people. Given, for instance, a Xantippe for a wife, will the learned Professor tell us the amount of sussive force that must be expended by the husband in order to prevent her temper from exploding more than once a day, or, if possible, not at all. Again, does good come from blowing people up; if so, how much, of what kind, and to whom—the blower up or the blowee up?

Mr. Macfarren has been appointed to succeed Sir Sterndale Bennett, both as Professor of Music at the University of Cambridge, and as Principal of the Royal Academy of Music. At the first concert, in St. James's Hall, of the latter since the accession of the new principal, the programme, out of respect for Sir S. Bennett, was composed entirely of his works. The performances of the students, both vocal and instrumental, both choral and solo, showed a very high degree of culture. The Hall was well filled, and the audience were highly pleased both with the programme selected and its interpretation.

Dr. Manning, and certain other ecclesiastics of the Roman Catholic Church, have been raised to the dignity of Cardinals. It is even rumoured, on what authority we know not, that Cardinal Manning may attain a still greater eminence, and succeed the present occupant of the Papal Throne. In such a case he would be the second Englishman who has achieved such a distinction. The first was Adrian IV. (Nicholas Brakespeare), who was elected in 1154, and died, after a brief reign of five years, in 1159.

The chief item of news from France is not p litical, but commercial. There have been some heavy speculations on the Bourse, and heavy losses in the matter of time bargains. One speculator is said to have lost upwards of half a million sterling. The Duke d'Audiffret-Pasquier has succeeded M. Buffet, the new Premier, in the

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Presidency of the Assembly. We hear also that it is proposed to raise the yearly salary of the President of the Republic from £24,000 to £80,000, a very necessary increase, we should say, for one occupying so high a position as Chief of the State. More fighting in Spain, the Carlists having attacked the Alphonsist's positions, and been beaten. Meantime, there is rumour of a Convention. As to the first piece of news, we can only say *tant pis*, as to the other, *tant mieux*. From Italy we learn that the approaching visit of the Emperor Francis Joseph is exciting great interest. Not unnaturally, seeing that Austria and Italy were sworn enemies less than twenty years since. Victor Emmanuel and the Austro-Hungarian sovereign are to meet at Venice—Italian, politically speaking of course, only since 1866. The last member of the Austrian Imperial Royal Family, who visited Venice, was the generous, but ill-fated Archduke Maximilian, Emperor of Mexico. There is also some talk of a visit to Italy by the Emperor of Germany. Last year such an event was mentioned, but His Majesty's health prevented its being carried out. If the visit should take place this year, and the improved health of the Emperor renders this increasingly probable, it will be made in May, and Milan will be the trysting place of the two monarchs. Strange that the quondam enemy of Italy should be an earlier guest of its sovereign than its old ally of 1866!

We learn from *Le Monde Maçonnique* that Bro. Joseph Aillet, captain of the Cilaos, has been the means of saving Captain Reid and the crew of the ship Industry, burnt at sea in the autumn of last year. Captain Reid and his men had taken to their boats, and were picked up by the French vessel, on board of which they were most carefully and kindly treated, and afterwards landed at Réunion. H.M. Consul Perry, on receiving news of this service, lost no time in offering reimbursement for the maintenance of the English crew, but Captain Aillet refused the offer, with thanks, whereupon Consul Perry officially conveyed to him, through the Governor of the Island, the thanks of Her Majesty, not only for having saved the lives of so many of her subjects, but likewise for his generous disinterestedness in declining compensation. This letter of thanks has been published in *le Journal Officiel de l'Ile de la Réunion*.

The light cavalry of the Honourable Artillery Company held their annual dinner on Wednesday evening, at the Criterion, Piccadilly. Captain Garrard presided, and a goodly muster of this ancient corps were present. The banquet was of a *récherché* description, and was served *à la Russe*. The health of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Colonel and Captain-General of the regiment, was drunk with immense enthusiasm, the toast of the "Ancient and Honourable Artillery Company," which was appropriately responded to by Captain Field, being similarly honoured. Captain Garrard acknowledged the toast of "The Light Cavalry" in genial terms, and soon after the company dispersed. The private band of the Company enlivened the proceedings, under the direction of their efficient bandmaster, Mr. Sprake, and there were several excellent songs sung between the toasts.

The eighteenth annual assault of arms of the Hon. Artillery Company's Athletic Club was held the same day. The programme included wrestling, fencing, boxing, single-stick, sabre *v.* bayonet, and other displays of athletic skill, the principal performers being Professor Waite and Messrs. Wace, H. Field, Jones, Gotto, Lemaire, Cudly and others. Everything passed off admirably.

In consequence of the installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales having been appointed to take place on the 28th of April, Bro. Constable's drawing for Life Governorships to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls is unavoidably postponed to the following Wednesday, 5th of May.

St. Patrick's Day passed off admirably in Dublin. Castle Yard was again thrown open to the public—as in former years—who flocked in considerable numbers to witness the ceremony of trooping the colours, and to listen to the strains of martial music. A squadron of the 5th Dragoon Guards enacted the former, while its band, with that of the 2nd Foot, provided the latter. On the balcony of the Viceregal apartments were, besides His Grace the Lord Lieutenant and Lady Georgina Hamilton, the Lord Mayor and Mrs. M'Swiney, Sir Arthur and Lady Olive Guinness, together with most of the members of the Viceregal household. At 1 p.m. the band played the National Anthem, and the crowd dispersed. St. Patrick's Ball at the Castle was also a brilliant success, there being a very numerous attendance of the *élite* of the Dublin fashionable world.

The Grand Lodge of California exercises authority over 198 subordinate Lodges, with an aggregate membership of 10,725 brethren.

Her Majesty has conferred the Albert Medal of the second-class on Lieut. the Hon. Francis Robert Sandilands, R.N., of the "Audacious," for his gallant conduct in rescuing the ship's Corporal, who had fallen overboard and seemed incapable of helping himself. Lieut. Sandilands was on the bridge at the time the latter fell overboard, having had the first watch, and being in conversation with the officer of the middle watch. Without the slightest hesitation, Lieut. Sandilands leaped into the sea, the height being 24 feet, swam to him and kept him afloat for a good quarter of an hour, till eventually both were picked up, but the unfortunate Corporal was insensible, and died very soon after being got on board again. The ship was under steam at the time, and it was dark. Some delay, too, occurred in getting the lifeboat clear of the slings, nor was Lieut. Sandilands able to reach the life buoys, which were let go. It is seldom a decoration of this kind is so well merited.

We understand that there is a movement on foot, in Rhode Island, by some of the more active members of the Craft, to form a Relief Association for the aid of sojourning brothers. Good.—*Freemason's Repository*.

The ceremony of installation will be rehearsed in the Confidence Lodge of Instruction, 193, at Bro. Chard's, Abchurch Lane, Cannon Street, E.C., on Wednesday 24th inst. 7·30, by Bro. John Constable P.M. 182.

Some good boxing and wrestling for the Amateur Championship was witnessed on Thursday at Lillie Bridge, the prizes being sundry challenge cups, the gift of the Marquis of Queensbury, while the individual winners receive a small silver medal as the memento of their success. The judges for boxing were Messrs. H. J. Chinnery, E. B. Michell, and D. Moffat, and for wrestling Messrs. J. L. Stirling and J. G. Chambers. Giles won the light weight championship boxing, in the final tie beating Denereaz, last year's champion; Douglass, the middle weight; and Highton the heavy weight championship. In the wrestling there was but a single encounter, Mr. Squire, of the German Gymnastic Society, meeting Mr. Winthrop of Cambridge University, a giant of 16 stone. It was a very game struggle on the part of the former, but the odds in weight and strength were too much for him, and he had to succumb to the Cambridge man.

A military funeral is an event of rare occurrence. Indeed, we cannot call to mind the case of a single officer of high rank being thus interred since the Duke of Wellington, in 1852. On Saturday, General Sir Hope Grant, G.C.B., was carried to his last resting place, in the Grange Cemetery, Edinburgh, there being present the 1st Dragoons, 1st Foot (Royal Scots), the Edinburgh Volunteers, a battery of the R.A., and a detachment of the 9th Lancers, the deceased General's Regiment. The coffin was placed, as usual, on a gun-carriage, with the sword, hat, and epaulettes, together with his medals and decorations, these being interspersed with wreaths of *immortelles*. The troops marched with reversed arms, the bands played the dead march, and the R.A. at the Castle fired minute guns. The streets along the route followed by the procession were densely thronged with people, all the shops were closed, and the flags on the public buildings were half mast high. After the service of the English Church had been read, the coffin was lowered into the grave, and the artillery fired a salute of 15 guns. The pall bearers were Generals

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Sir John Douglas (Commanding in Scotland), Sir Archibald Little, F. C. A. Stephenson, Anderson C.B., Primrose, and M'Cleverty. The principal mourners were Mr. C. T. C. Grant (of Kilgraston), Lieut. Col. F. Grant (son of Sir Francis Grant, P.R.A.), and Sir George Home, Bart., and there were present likewise, to do honour to the deceased, Major Russell, on the part of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Colonel Macdonald, on behalf of H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, Colonel Biddulph, on behalf of the Queen, &c., &c. Unfortunately, an accident happened during the passage of the cortège, which ended in the death of one person, and more or less serious injuries to several others.

Members of the Craft will receive, with deep regret, the announcement of the death, which took place on Monday last, at the age of 55, of our esteemed Bro. G. Pymm, P.M. Belgrave Lodge, P.M. Harrow Lodge, and W.M. of the Star Lodge, lamented deeply by his sorrowing wife, children, and numerous Masonic and private friends, to all of whom he had endeared himself by acts of charity and his genial disposition.

Bro. J Fitzgerald, chef d'Orchestre at the Strand, whose musical arrangements have given such general satisfaction to the frequenters of this bijou theatre, will retire from his post at Easter. He has accepted an engagement with Miss Lydia Thompson, to conduct and compose the music at the Globe Theatre, and likewise to accompany her *troupe*, in the capacity of musical director, on their provincial tour, when the London season is ended.

At the Vaudeville, Bros. D. James and T. Thorne, in Bro. H. J. Byron's Comedy, "Our Boys," nightly create roars of genuine laughter. Bro. Thorne also sustains the principal rôle in "A Regular Fix." In fine, every character in the various pieces performed at this popular house is most ably delineated by its representative.

Mr. Benjamin Lumley, who was for many years manager of the Royal Italian Opera in the Haymarket, died on Wednesday night last, at his residence, No. 8 Kensington Crescent, at the age of 64 years. The deceased gentleman will be best remembered in connection with his introduction of Jenny Lind to the British public.

On Thursday Lord Hampton delivered the inaugural address at the Institution of Naval Architects. He remarked that, since their last meeting, the report on unseaworthy ships had been presented, and though there might be considerable difference of opinion as to the substance of the report, he imagined they would all agree with him as to the importance of its recommendations. Among the suggestions of the Royal Commission, to which his lordship drew attention, may be mentioned the importance of improving the discipline on board merchant ships, a system of improved Courts of Inquiry into the loss of, and damage sustained by merchant ships, and that the Marine department of the Board of Trade should not only not be neglected, but should be improved, and as much as possible strengthened. On the last point Lord Hampton was most urgent, considering that the Royal Commission had earned for themselves a title to the warmest gratitude of the country. The report of the Council was read and accepted, and it was stated that the financial position of the Institution was eminently satisfactory. The meeting ended with the usual formalities.

Convict Mitchell appears to think that his election to Parliament by Co. Tipperary redounds greatly to his credit and that of the electors. We doubt it. There can be no doubt, however, as to the dishonour which inevitably falls upon the Parliament of the United Kingdom, that such election should be possible.

We have been informed that an extract we published from *Pomeroy's Democrat* last week, had previously appeared in the *Freemason*. So much the better for the matter quoted.

THE DRAMA.

Re-opening of the Court Theatre—Nicholas Nickleby—Round the World in Eighty days.

ON Saturday last the popular little COURT THEATRE re-opened its doors, under the management of Mr. Hare. That intelligent and painstaking actor must have felt extremely gratified by the splendid house his programme had attracted, and by the warmth and enthusiasm manifested by the audience throughout the evening. The *pièce de resistance* was a three-act comedy, entitled *Lady Flora*, of a strong Robertsonian cast, and written by Mr. Charles F. Coghlan, of the Prince of Wales's Theatre. Better than the majority of the Robertsonian imitations, this comedy is still not altogether satisfactory. The plot is weak, even for modern comedy, and the pulse of the audience is but seldom and feebly stirred during the performance. The intrigue of our old English, the passion of modern French comedy, are here conspicuous only by their absence. There is, however, a capital fund of humour pervading the play, and the characters are drawn with artistic skill. Mr. Coghlan has certainly done the utmost that could be done with such scanty materials. The story may be narrated in a few words:—Lady Clara, a high born damsel, betrothed from childhood to the scion of an equally noble house, discovers that her affianced is not her match in point of intellect. George de Chavannes, indeed, though good-natured, and amiable of disposition, is not clever, and some of the things he says strike Lady Flora as stupid. She also, at the same time, finds out that a certain Mr. Armytage, a poor Oxford tutor, possesses the very cleverness her *fiancé* lacks. Ultimately the high-born damsel declares for poverty and brains in preference to wealth and no brains. The story is so simple, that it is difficult to imagine, at the first blush, how three acts could possibly have been built upon it. Nor is the slightness of the plot counterbalanced in any way by the number and variety of its incidents. These also are singularly few in number. The play, in fact, may be said to depend entirely upon effective characterisation and clever dialogue. Seen at the COURT, however, this almost plotless play can hardly fail to be enjoyed by all who witness it. The acting throughout is of the highest order, and all the characters, in the hands of the artists engaged for them, are exquisite full length portraits, which all who look upon must admire. Foremost of all, of course, comes Mr. Hare, who, in the Duc de Chavannes, gives us a picture worthy of being classed with his former creations, Prince Perovski and Bean Farintosh. Every detail has, probably, been carefully studied, yet the whole appears so consistent and natural, that one altogether loses the personality of the actor in the character he depicts. Lady Flora herself comes next, in the person of Miss Madge Robertson. No more charming actress of comedy than Miss Robertson is to be found on the English stage, and Lady Flora is one of her most charming impersonations. The good-natured, but stupid George de Chavannes, finds an apt representative in Mr. John Clayton, who never fails to make a hit if half an opportunity be afforded him. The clever Mr. Armytage is well pourtrayed by Mr. Kendal, and the remaining characters are ably sustained by Messrs. Kelly and Kemble, and Miss Amy Fawsitt. Mr. Hare has unquestionably made a successful *début* as a theatrical manager, and we heartily wish him success.

At the ADELPHI, Nicholas Nickleby is underlined, for this evening, with an exceptionally strong cast, which includes the names of Messrs. Emery, Fernandez, Clarke, Belmore, Terris, Shore; and Mesdames Lydia Foote, Hudspeth, and Harriet Coveney. We trust to be able to criticise the performance next week.

Round the World in Eighty Days, a spectacular drama, based on the eccentric story of MM. D'Ennery and Verne, has been produced at the PRINCESS'S, and bids fair to prove one of the greatest attractions of the present season. Those who have read *Le Tour du Monde en 80 Jours* will be, of course, familiar with the gist of the story, and consequently with the plot of the piece. Suffice it that while the story, though eminently amusing, and offering several excellent opportunities for a skilful arrangement of incident, is hardly capable of being worked up into what we generally expect in a drama, we know of few which afford better or more frequent occasion for a spectacular display. The story, be it remarked, is not without interest, but we are on the look-out principally for brilliant and effective scenery and splendid costumes, and we do not look in vain. No doubt, when the stiffness, which is part and parcel of such a piece during its earlier representations, has been somewhat toned down, the public will highly appreciate the play. The version at the Porte St. Martin was a success, and we see no cause or impediment why this should not be so. From these remarks it will be apparent that the acting is only a secondary consideration. Nevertheless the several parts are well sustained. Mr. Henry Sinclair well delineated the character of Milford, and his cockney servant, Ready, was an admirable exhibition of humour on the part of Mr. Brittain Wright. Mr. McIntyre as Spreadeagle made a good American, and Mr. Glover was also good as Fix. The Misses Helen Barry and Carlisle were respectively Aouda and Nema, other female parts being assigned to Misses Macdonald, Murray, and Cicely Nott. The great success of the piece was the *fête* of the snake charmers, the figures being very graceful, and the dancing of Mesdemoiselles Dorel and Gosslin admirable. The Eccentric Club Palace was very magnificent, indeed, the scenery throughout was more than usually good.

CHINESE CARVING.

FOR Sale, an elaborately carved Set of Ivory Chessmen. The Kings stand 8¼ inches high, the other pieces in proportion. Knights and Pawns on horseback, all mounted on stands, with concentric balls. Can be seen, and full particulars obtained, on application to W. W. MORGAN, 87 Barbican.—*Advt.*

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DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be greatly obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the kingdom would favour us with a copy of their summonses each time of issue.

As Friday of the ensuing week happens to be Good Friday, we have not thought it prudent to insert the usual fixtures, lest we should be unwittingly the means of misdirecting any of our readers. It is within our knowledge that many Lodges have adjourned their meetings, which otherwise would have fallen on Good Friday, rather than assemble on that day.

SATURDAY, 20th MARCH.

715—Panmure, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
1329—Sphinx, Camberwell.
1364—Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Hackney.
1425—Hyde Park, The Westbourne, No. 1 Craven Road, Paddington.

149—Peace, Masonic Rooms, Meltham,
309—Prince George, Bottoms, Eastwood.

SUNDAY, 21st MARCH.

54—Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Rochdale (Instruction.)

MONDAY, 22nd MARCH.

4—Royal Somerset House and Inverness, Freemasons' Hall.
26—Castle Lodge of Harmony, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.
28—Old Kings Arms, Freemasons' Hall.
183—Unity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
902—Burgoyne, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
905—De Grey and Ripon, Caledonian Hotel, Adelphi.
R. A. 25—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall.

48—Industry, Freemasons' Hall, West-street, Gateshead.
68—Royal Clarence, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
102—Unanimity, King's Arms, North Walsham.
302—Hope, Masonic Hall, Bradford.
307—Prince Frederick, White Horse Hotel, Hebden Bridge.
827—St. John's, Masonic Temple, Halifax-road, Dewsbury, Yorks.
999—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.

TUESDAY, 23rd MARCH.

14—Tuscan, Freemasons' Hall.
92—Moira, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
145—Prudent Brethren, Freemasons' Hall.
186—Industry, 2 West Chambers, Victoria-street, Westminster.
205—Israel, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
259—Prince of Wales, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.
1158—Southern Star, Montpelier Tavern, Walworth.
1196—Urban, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's-gate.
1346—Ebury, Morpeth Arms Tavern, Millbank.
R. A. 21—Cyrus, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
R. A. 46—Old Union, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.

126—Silent Temple, Cross Keys Inn, Burnley.
226—Benevolence, Red Lion Hotel, Littleborough.
446—St. James', Freemasons' Hall, Halifax.
R. A. 124—Concord, Freemasons' Hall, Durham.

WEDNESDAY, 24th MARCH.

Lodge of Benevolence, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, at 6.
2—Antiquity, Freemasons' Hall.
212—Euphratee, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, Basinghall-street.
507—United Pilgrims, Horns Tavern, Kennington.
753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood.
754—High Cross, Seven Sisters Tavern, Page-green, Tottenham.
1056—Victoria, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.

117—Salopian Lodge of Charity, Raven Hotel, Shrewsbury.
128—Prince Edwin, Bridge Inn, Bolton-street, Bury.
210—Duke of Athol, Nottingham Castle Inn, Denton.
266—Naphtali, Masonic Rooms, Market-place, Heywood.
274—Tranquillity, Boar's Head Inn, Newchurch, near Manchester.
288—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Todmorden.
290—Huddersfield, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield.
363—Keystone, New Inn, Whitworth.
367—Airdale, Masonic Hall, Westgate, Shipley.
750—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Cleckheaton, Yorks.
934—Merit, Church Inn, Whitefield.
1119—St. Bede's, Mechanics' Institute, Jarrow.
1392—Egerton, Stanley Arms Hotel, York-street, Cheetham, near Manchester.
M.M.—St. John, Commercial Hotel, Town Hall-square, Bolton.
M.M.—Northumberland and Berwick, Masonic Hall, Newcastle.

THURSDAY, 25th MARCH.

General Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
22—Neptune, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.
34—Mount Moriah, Freemasons' Hall.
60—Peace and Harmony, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, E.C.
65—Prosperity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.
66—Grenadiers, Freemasons' Hall.
99—Shakespeare, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
766—William Preston, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
R. A. 177—Domatic, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
R. A. 2[illegible]—Strength, Green Man Hotel, Ilford.
R. A. 766—William Preston, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
M.M. 32—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
K. T.—Plains of Sharon, Cross Keys Inn, Burnley.

39—St. John the Baptist, Masonic Hall, Exeter.
78—Imperial George, Assheton Arms Hotel, Middleton.
160—Friendship, Crown and Anchor Hotel, Great Yarmouth.
111—Restoration, Freemasons' Hall, Dewsbury.
215—Commerce, Commercial Inn, Hull.
269—Fidelity, White Bull Hotel, Blackburn.
288—Samaritan, Green Man Hotel, Bacup.
318—St. John, Bull's Head Inn, Bradshawgate, Bolton.
367—Probity and Freedom, Bull's Head Inn, Sandbridge, near Rochdale.
439—Scientific, Private Room, Bingley.
810—Craven, Devonshire Hotel, Skipton.
904—Phœnix, Ship Hotel, Wellgate, Rotherham.
935—Harmony, Freemasons Hall, Salford.
971—Trafalgar, Commercial-street, Batley, Yorks.
1418—Fraternity, Freemasons' Hall, Wellington-road, Stockton-on-Tees.
1429—Ashbury, Justice Birch Hotel, Hyde-road, West Gorton, near Manchester.
R. A. 54—Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Rochdale.
R. A. 307—Good Intent, White Horse, Hebden Bridge, near Halifax.
K. T.—Fearnely, Masonic Temple, Dewsbury.

SATURDAY, 27th MARCH.

1297—West Kent, Forest Hill Hotel, Forest Hill.
1403—Wharncliffe, Rose and Crown Hotel, Penistone.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—349—St. Clair, Freemasons' Hall.
TUESDAY—151—Defensive Band, Alexander Hall, Cockburn-street.
R. A. 40—Naval and Military, Freemasons' Hall.
WEDNESDAY—113—St. John, Fisher-row, Royal Hotel, Musselburgh.
THURSDAY—392—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Kent Lodge, No. 15.—The Installation Meeting of this ancient and rapidly increasing Lodge was held on the 10th inst., at Freemason's Hall, Great Queen-street. Bros. H. Martin W.M., J. Giles S.W., J. Pinder J.W., R. E. Barnes P.M. Secretary, supported by the Officers and Past Masters. The Lodge was opened and the minutes were confirmed. Mr. S. Horwitz was initiated. Bro. W. Seward No. 780, and Treasury No. 1501, was elected a joining member, the report of the Audit Committee was read, the installation of the W.M. took place. The ceremony was capitally done by the retiring W.M., Bro. Martin, who announced his intention of acting as Steward for the next Festival of the Girls' School. The W.M. then invested his officers, and the Lodge being closed, a banquet followed, superintended by Bro. Knill. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, also that of the W.M., Past Master, Wardens, &c. Bro. James Terry returned thanks for the visitors, who were Bros. Richard Cain 1475, Hicklin 507, Wigin P.M. 140, Bromet 1155, Major 217, Levy 188, and Turner 140.

St. John's Lodge, No. 90.—The usual monthly meeting of this Lodge was held at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate Street, on Monday last. Bro. N. Wetherel W.M. occupied the chair, supported by Bros. W. B. Snelling S.W., W. W. Venn J.W., J. Eglese P.M. Treasurer, J. Griffin P.M. Secretary, W. R. Stephens P.M. D.C., W. Stormer S.D., J. G. Robson I.G. P.M.'s J. S. Adam, L. D. McDougall, J. P. Griffin, Bros. J. Kelsey, J. Simonds, G. Thorne, W. P. Brown, P. Coard, W. Knapp Henderson, J. Pearce, W. P. Margetson, W. Colpoys, J. A. Meyrick, J. A. Allison and J. L. Cross. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of last Lodge were read and confirmed. Bro. Cresswell having answered the usual questions, retired, and the Lodge being opened in 2nd degree, this brother was passed to the degree of a F.C. The Lodge was resumed in 1st degree and closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet.

Chapter of Sincerity, No. 174.—A meeting of this Chapter was held at the Cheshire Cheese Tavern, Crutched Friars, on Thursday, 4th inst. Present Companions G. F. Cook Z., V. R. Rawley J., T. L. Mather S.E., R. W. Goddard S.N., Huggett P.S., E. C. Mather 1st A.S., L. A. Lewis 2nd A.S., P.Z. J. Terry, Balmer, J. Bellerby, Companions Clayton, Appleby, and several others. The Chapter was opened in due form, and the minutes of last Convocation were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Bro. H. Cox P.M. 742, and Bro. J. N. Pimm of Lodge No. 1349, which proved unanimous. Neither of these brethren being present, the Chapter was closed, and the Companions adjourned to Banquet.

Cavesa Lodge, No. 176.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on the 13th instant, at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate Street, Bro. T. A. Nairne P.M. occupied the chair, in the absence of the W.M. through indisposition, W. M. Goss as S.W., J. B. Sorrell J.W., P. Browne P.M. Treasurer, E. T. Dorey P.M. as Secretary. W. J. Stride I.G., J. R. Sorrell I.G., C. Browne P.M., M.C., and P.M.'s Beasley, Foreman and Jones. The Lodge was opened and the minutes were confirmed. One brother was passed to the 2nd degree, and the acting W.M. shewed his Masonic knowledge by giving the Lecture on the tracing board, in the 1st degree.* Bro. P. A. Nairne P.M. was selected to act as Steward on the occasion of the Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, on the 28th instant. The Lodge was then closed, and a very excellent banquet was given, provided by Brother W. G. Jennings. The acting W.M. ably presided, and gave the usual toasts. Bro. F. Walters P.G.P. (Middlesex), A. Williams W.M. 57, and H. Faija 1425 were present as visitors.

Domatic Lodge, No. 177.—This Lodge, which rapidly increases in numbers, and is so justly celebrated for its working, held its usual meeting on the 12th inst., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street. Bros. G. Everett W.M., A. Treadwell S.W., J. Willing jun. J.W., J. Smith P.G.P. Treasurer, T. Williams Secretary, W. Palmer S.D., J. Buscall J.D., G. Clarke I.G., P.M.'s Adams P.G.P., J. Brett P.G.P., Tims, H. F. Smith, F. Kent, Walford, and Bros. Plummer, Beard, Montague, Mumford, Bensley, Norris, Spink, Scales, Harris, Durham, Richards, Turner, Orchard, Hancock, Knott, Willis, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. Isenstein, Marriott, Turner, Herbage and Gibson, having shown their proficiency, were raised to the 3rd degree; Bros. Aley, F. H. Plummer and Robinson were passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. Mr. T. G. Wells was balloted for, and duly initiated. Notice of motion

* It is much to be regretted that these Lectures are not more frequently heard in the various Lodges. It would be very beneficial, not only to the newly initiated, but to old Masons, very many of whom tell us they have never heard the different Lectures there delivered. Other brethren would have opportunities of becoming acquainted with these beautiful and sublime rituals, upon which the principles of our Order are founded, and they would also acquire a better knowledge of the duties required of them, in their social relations with their fellows.—EDITOR FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

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was given by the W.M. "That the usual summer Festival take place in the month of July, and that ladies be invited," which was carried. In addition to the officers of the Lodge, Bros. Kent P.M., Sergeant, Scard, Prendarleith and McLean were elected on the Committee. A sum of 10 guineas was voted, on Bro. Ferguson's List, for the Girls School, and £10, on the List of Bro. F. Kent P.M., for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. The W.M. was nominated, for approval of Grand Lodge, as Steward, on the occasion of the Installation of H.R.H the Prince of Wales. The Lodge was then closed, until October, and the brethren (97 in number) sat down to a sumptuous banquet, provided by Bro. Clemow, and superintended by Bro. Smith. The W.M., in eloquent terms, proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, that of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.W.G.M. being received with acclamation; these were duly honoured. The W.M. was characterised as a good working Mason, and one who was worthy to occupy the chair. The harmony of the evening was well sustained, and the brethren separated. The visitors were Bros. J. Boyd P.G.P., Gardener W.M. 1381, Tucker J.W. 435, Cramp 618, Parry 49, Walls 141, Minns W.M. 811, Koch W.M. 838 and 1421.

Lodge of Justice, No. 147.—A meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, 10th inst., at the White Swan Tavern, Deptford. There were present Bros. J. Roper W.M., Andrews P.M. S.W., Speight J.W., Church S.D., Waterman J.D., Partington I.G., Bros. Wyat, Freeman, Blyton, Skelton, Clarke, and several other brethren. Past Masters G. Bolton, G. Chapman, Batt, and C. G. Dilley. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Mr. G. Chapman, which was favourable. The Lodge was opened in 2nd degree, and Bro. Wyatt having answered the usual questions, retired. The Lodge was opened in 3rd degree, and Bro. Wyatt was raised. The Lodge resumed in 1st degree, and Bro. Freeman proved his proficiency in that degree and retired. The Lodge being resumed in 2nd degree, Bro. Freeman was passed to the F.C. degree. The Lodge was resumed in 1st degree, and Mr. G. Chapman was initiated into Freemasonry. The Lodge was then closed, and adjourned till the second Wednesday in April.

Tranquillity Lodge, No. 185.—Bro. John Horth Ross W.M., presided at a meeting of this Lodge, on Monday, the 15th inst., at the Terminus Hotel, Cannon Street, E.C. The Wardens, Bros. J. D. Barnett and D. Posener, P.M.'s Saul Solomon, Bloomfield, Gluckstein and Gottheil, as well as a goodly number of members, were present. The principle business before the meeting consisted in passing Bro. George Downing to the second degree, and of initiating Messrs. Rowley and Jumper. Both ceremonies were exceedingly well performed by the W.M., of whom the Lodge has every reason to be proud. His genial temperament secures him faithful friendship, whilst the intelligence with which his various duties are performed, creates lively admiration. Bro. Constable, the I.P.M., in nominating the W.M. to serve as one of the Stewards at the coming Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, said he thought that any honour accruing to the Lodge should be vested in the W.M. during his tenure of office, more especially when a W.M. such as Bro. Ross presides, who, in every respect, merits the greatest consideration at their hands. There were only two visitors, namely, Bro. W. F. Papprill 180, and Bro. Jacob Norton, of Boston, U.S. That talented Brother, whose writings on Masonic subjects are well known and appreciated on both sides of the Atlantic, received quite an ovation. There were some members in the Lodge who had known him in former years, for Bro. Norton had been a resident in London, and great pleasure was expressed at the re-union. Bro. Bilby, the much respected Organist, who is very rarely seen at the banquet table, stayed on this occasion to partake of refreshment, and Past Master Solomon embraced the opportunity to compliment that Brother upon his musical talents, and to thank him, in the name of the brethren, for the important services he is always ready to render the Lodge. Bro. Bilby had also shown that evening that he was an accomplished vocalist, Bro. Solomon therefore hoped to have the pleasure of Bro. Bilby's society with greater frequency. During the evening it was incidentally mentioned that a report appeared in the *Standard* of the 15th inst., informing the readers that Bro. Headon, W.M. of the Great City Lodge, had collected £170 on behalf of the Masonic Girls' School, for which Institution he is about to stand Steward. This is cheering news, and Bro. Headon deserves hearty applause for his efforts in the cause of charity. It is also extremely gratifying to announce that Bro. Constable I.P.M. has on his List for the same Institution no less a sum than £227, the whole of which has been placed in a deposit bank. This amount has been collected entirely by personal solicitations, and has nothing to do with the monies accumulating from the sale of his 1s tickets. If there are a few more such hardworking Stewards, the coming Festival cannot fail to be a success.

Royal Union Lodge, No. 382.—This prosperous Lodge, which is now approaching the ripe age of fifty years, held its Installation gathering on Monday, the 15th instant, at the Chequers Hall, Uxbridge, when the members mustered in strength, and were ably supported by the brethren of the Province of Middlesex and a host of Masonic friends. The duties of the Lodge, which were of an exceptionally heavy character, were ably carried out under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. W. H. Swallow, who was well supported by his various officers. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. The W.M. then initiated two gentlemen into the Order. The Lodge was then opened in the 2nd degree, and Bros. Clayden and Meadows were passed to the degree of F.C. The Lodge was then opened in the 3rd degree, and Bros. Gee, Hoepfner, Wells and Morted were raised. The W.M. elect was then introduced, and a board of Installed Masters being formed, Brother E. Cornelius Woodward S.W. was duly installed in the Chair of K.S., the whole of the ceremonies being conducted by Brother Swallow, in a most effective and satisfactory manner, the delivery of the various addresses calling forth the repeated plaudits of the brethren assembled. Bro. Coulton sen. acted as D.C. The W.M. then appointed his officers as follow:—Davis S.W., Swallow J.W., Colman Treasurer, W. Coombes P.M. Past Prov. G.S.B. Secretary, Holliday S.D., Webb J.D., Hawkins I.G., W. Smith P.M. Director of Ceremonies, Longstaff Tyler. The newly elected W.M. soon gave the members of his Lodge an intimation that he meant the duties of his office should be energetically carried out, and was very happy in the few remarks he made to each brother he selected for office. The Lodge was then resumed in 1st degree, and Messrs. Allen and Wallis were initiated by the W.M., Bro. Woodward, who conducted the ceremony in a perfect manner. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Town Hall, where a banquet was provided. The heavy duties of the day, however, had somewhat curtailed the time, and the usual toasts, loyal and Masonic, were somewhat hurriedly got through. Amongst the brethren assembled we noticed Bros. Laxton W.M. 1238 S.G.D. Middlesex, T. H. Pulsford W.M. 1158, A. Burrell W.M. 1446, W. H. Green 1310 P.G.D.C. Middlesex, C. A. Cottebrune P.G.P., T. R. Gibson 1446, W. J. Ferguson P.M. 177, Morrell P.M. 111, W. Jones P.M. 765, T. W. Allen P.M., Frederick Binckes P.M. G.S. Secretary of the Boys' School, Rosenthal P.S.W. Middlesex, Rev. Bro. Holden, &c. The brethren were entertained during the banquet by the enlivening strains of an excellent band, conducted by Bro. C. Folkey. The visitors were greatly pleased, and expressed themselves highly gratified at the manner in which the various officers of the Lodge exerted themselves to look after their comforts.

Lodge of Montefiore, No. 1017.—A numerous assemblage of the members of this Lodge met on the 10th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street. Bros. J. Grunbaum W.M., J. Blum S.W., J. Lazarus P.M. as J.W., L. Jacobs Treasurer, E. P. Albert P.M. Secretary, Gulliford S.D., Albu J.D., Ring I.G.; and P.M.'s S. V. Abraham, De Solla I.P.M., and Pollitzer, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. Russo Dranberg, M. Levy, Hand and Zappert were raised to the 3rd degree; Bro. Proust was passed to the 2nd degree; Messrs. Morritz Levy and Henry Keppa were initiated. The Lodge was then closed, and an excellent banquet followed. The W.M. gave the usual loyal and routine toasts. He also provided a delightful concert. Miss Amanda Holmberg, a Swedish cantatrice, sang a song, composed by Bro. Wilhelm Gans P.G.O., charmingly; Herr Warrenrath, a very excellent tenor, Mr. Moss and Bro. S. Webb, of the Royal Italian Opera; also Bro. Van Biene, the celebrated violencello. Bro. M. De Solla conducted the musical arrangements, and Miss De Solla accompanied on the piano. Altogether a very harmonious evening was passed. The visitors were Bros. L. Alexander P.M. 188, Hogan P.M. 205, J. Constable P.M. 185, Lumley, No. 1, May, Lyons 1227, B. Woolf 177, J. Norton (America), &c.

Perfect Ashlar Lodge, No. 1178.—An emergency meeting of the above Lodge, was held on the 11th inst., at the Gregorian Arms Tavern, Jamaica Road, Bermondsey. There were present Bros. C. Deakin W.M., J. Rose S.W., J. A. Smith J.W., F. H. Elsworth P.M. Treasurer, F. Walters P.G.P. (Middlesex) Secretary, W. Batchelor S.D., W. T. Lover J.D., F. Garbett I.G., J. Stock M.C., G. J. Grace, J. H. Harmsworth, A. Goodman, and J. Wootton Past Masters. The Lodge was opened, and Mr. J. L. Bell was initiated into the Order. It was then unanimously carried that the Lodge be removed to the Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren separated, there being no banquet.

Golden Rule Lodge, No. 1261.—A meeting of this Lodge was held at the Regent Masonic Hall, Air Street, Regent Street, on Tuesday last. There were present Bros. W. Wellen Smith W.M., Williams S.W., A. Torkington J.W., F. Bigg P.M. Treasurer, J. Harris P.M. Secretary, P. Godfrey S.D., Longley J.D., T. Millington I.G., Dr. Cross M.D., P.M., Bros. Levy, Curtiss, James and several other brethren. The Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of previous Lodge were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Mr. W. Emden, which proved in his favour. Mr. Emden and Mr. G. J. Simpson, who had been balloted for on the previous Lodge night, were then initiated into Freemasonry as E.A.F.M. The Lodge was opened in 2nd degree, and Bros. Levy and Curtiss having proved their proficiency in this degree, were intrusted and retired, and the Lodge having been opened in the 3rd degree, these brethren were raised to the sublime degree of M.M.'s. The Lodge was resumed in 1st degree, and there being no other business, was closed, and the brethren adjourned to Banquet.

The St. John of Wapping Lodge, No. 1306.—A meeting of this prosperous Lodge was held on Wednesday, 10th March, at the Sun Tavern and Hotel, High Street, Wapping, under the presidency of Bro. William Beck W.M., assisted by Bros. Maud S.W., Jackson J.W., Pallett S.D., Poore J.D., Bonto I.G.; there were also present Bros. W. Mann P.M. and Treasurer, Bro. Dawson P.M., Bros. Fortescue, Boon, Rae, Lofty, Willets, Williams, Townsend, Timmins, McDougal, R. Hayward, &c. Visitors—Bros. Moss and J. Hayward. The business transacted was raising Bro. Wells, passing Bros. Tyer, Veal, Roberts and B. J. Wheeler, and initiating Messrs. Graham, Wood, Cox, and J. M. Wheeler; the long and arduous work being very ably performed by the W.M. This being the night of election of W.M. for the ensuing year, Bro. William Mann P.M., the founder of the Lodge, after a lapse of 5 years, was re-elected W.M. by a large majority. A £10 10s jewel was voted to Bro. William Beck, the retiring W.M., for the very able and courteous manner he had presided over the Lodge for the last twelve months. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet, where the usual toasts were given, and an agreeable evening passed.

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Halsey Lodge, 1479, St. Albans.—The members of this Lodge met at the Town Hall, St. Albans, on Wednesday, 17th inst., under the presidency of Bro. J. Lowthin W.M., H. Edwards S.W., G. Askew J.W., A. Godson S.D., &c. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. passed Bro. Hall to the second degree. The brethren next proceeded to the election of a W.M. for the ensuing year, for which office Bro. G. Askew was duly selected. The appointment of a Treasurer was the next business, and Bro. Palin was unanimously chosen for that office. Bro. Kirby was re-elected Tyler. A committee was then appointed to audit the accounts for the past year. After other Masonic business, the brethren adjourned to the "Peahen," where the usual banquet took place, and a most convivial evening was spent; Bros. Debenham, Reynolds, Godson, &c. contributing to the entertainment of those assembled.

The Alexandra Lodge, Hornsea, No. 1,511.—It will be recollected that, about three months ago, a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons was established at Hornsea, near Kingston-upon-Hull, a dispensation having been granted by the Earl of Zetland, the R.W. Grand Master of the Province. The progress made by this young Lodge has been most marked, and the manner in which the working is carried on reflects the highest credit on the W.M., Bro. Thomas Oates, and his staff of officers. The interior fittings have now been completed, and the Lodge presents an unique and elegant appearance. A superb suite of furniture has lately been added, and rare and valuable copies of the Holy Bible have been presented by Bros. William Shepherdson, H. J. Amphlett and John Shuttleworth. A handsomely mounted chart of Masonry, prepared by the deputy Grand Master of the Province, Bro. John Pearson Bell M.D., has also been presented to the Lodge by Bro. Charles Lewis. A large number of names have been presented of persons desirous of joining the Lodge; but we are pleased that a wise discrimination is being exercised as to the admission of members. The object aimed at seems to be to gain a select body of working Masons, rather than to secure merely numerical strength; and the admission of several clergymen and gentlemen of influence in the Holderness district augurs well for the future prosperity of this young and excellent Lodge. At a regular meeting, on Wednesday, the interesting ceremony was performed of raising three brethren to the sublime degree, which was done in the presence of a goodly muster of the members; and the working was gone through in a manner that was highly creditable to all who were entitled to take part in it. Arrangements were made for the representation of the Alexandra Lodge at the forthcoming installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as Grand Master of England; and Bro. H. E. Voight undertook to attend as a Steward, from the Lodge, at the Anniversary Festival of Masonic Charities, next May.

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Farewell morning and evening benefits will take place on Monday next at the Alhambra Theatre on the occasion of the retirement of Bro. John Baum from the management. The programme comprises "The Wrong Man in the Right Place," in which the celebrated Vokes Family will appear by permission of Bro. F. B. Chatterton; "The Rough Diamond;" A Miscellaneous concert by Mr. Lindsay Sloper, &c.; Two acts of the Opera Bouffe, "Wittinaton," comprising "The Grand Barbaric Ballett;" comic ballet by the Lauri family, and a new Operetta, "The fifteenth of October."

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Printed and Published for the Freemason's Chronicle Publishing Company Limited, by Brother WILLIAM WRAY MORGAN, at 67 Barbican, E.C., Saturday, 20th March 1875.

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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. I.—No. 13. SATURDAY, 27th MARCH 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

THE GREAT CITY LODGE AND THE LORD MAYOR.

OUR readers will find, in another column, a report of the important ceremonial and banquet of Saturday last, when the Lord Mayor and Mr Alderman and Sheriff Ellis were the guests of the Great City Lodge. The gathering was a remarkable one, comprising, as it did, the élite of Masonic society, who were assembled to do honour to the chief magistrate of the first city in the world. All that art could do to give due pomp to the proceedings of the evening was done, and the officers ably sustained the high reputation which has already been won by the Lodge. The ceremonial was absolutely perfect, and the banquet which followed the business was worthy of the occasion. The Lord Mayor, in response to the toast of his health, took occasion to remark that he himself was under the influence of a Masonic revival, and that the coming installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales would mark a revival in Masonry, the influence of which would be long and widely felt. It is from this point of view that we venture to regard the meeting of Saturday. It marks, in the most significant manner, the fact that Masonry is spreading rapidly in this country, and that its principles and its practical objects are beginning to be understood and appreciated by those who were once inclined to throw stones at the Order. Men are learning that the Fraternity exists for other purposes than the mere parade of the regalia of office, and that the brethren are men of a stamp who would find little satisfaction in quaint titles and mystic ceremonial, if those things were not the mere outward manifestations of the practical good which lies behind them. The City of London, indeed, is so closely connected with the Craft that it is needless to remind her citizens of the practical value of the great Fraternity, which is "broad based" upon the principles of Charity and Toleration. Very many of its magistrates, and large numbers of the members of the Corporation, are brothers. Its present Town Clerk, Bro. J. B. Monckton, is a distinguished Mason; Bro. Horace Jones, the City Architect, is as well versed in the mysteries of the Craft as he is in those of the noble profession of which he is so eminent a master. At any meeting of the Court of Common Council we could point out, on the benches of the Council Chamber, a score of brothers who have distinguished themselves, either as officers, or as practical workers in connection with the Masonic Charities. The mercantile community generally is strongly represented in all our chief metropolitan Lodges, and it would be difficult to pass through Mincing Lane or Lombard Street or any other great centre "where merchants most do congregate," without meeting men who have handled the gavel of Master, or in some less prominent sphere have toiled for the cause. It is fitting that the citizens of a city which owes so much to the genius of Wren should thus identify themselves with the Craft he loved so well, and it was not inappropriate that the meeting of Saturday should have been held almost under the shadow of the great Cathedral which stands as an imperishable monument of his fame. In looking back to the time when St. Paul's was slowly rising upon the foundations of the still grander pile which preceded it, we cannot but pause to note the changes which have since passed over the Brotherhood. Freemasonry had been interdicted in the reign of Henry IV., and from that time until the re-establishment of Grand Lodge it held its place by the most feeble tenure. The lamp of truth was no doubt kept burning by zealous brothers, but it was not until the beginning of the eighteenth century that the Order was revived. During those eventful three hundred years the old records and constitutions had perished, and when Wren was initiated, after the cap stone was fixed to his master piece, the Order lacked prestige, and was, to most persons, a new crotchet of a few wild enthusiasts. Since 1717, with the exception of the schism, the history of which is familiar to all Masons who are interested in the literature of the Craft, the progress of the Order has been marked by uninterrupted prosperity. Princes of the Royal blood have not disdained to bear office in a Fraternity which places the poorest brother upon a footing of perfect equality with the noblest of its members. Through good report and through evil report the Order has steadily made its way. Pedants have sneered at its so-called pasteboard temples, and its tinsel insignia. Bigots have fulminated their edicts against its principles, and its secrets have been regarded with dread by the vulgar. But in spite of all the obstacles which have cumbered the onward march of Freemasonry, we are able, to-day, to chronicle the fact that it now stands before the world in as proud a position as it held in that remote past, when the brethren were the teachers of science and the arts of construction to the ancient world. In Europe the Order has grown prosperous, in spite of the frowns of jealous monarchs, and the curses of Popes; and in America and the Colonies its progress during the last twenty years has been unprecedented. At home the Masonic journalist has to record the increasing wealth of Grand Lodge, its corresponding activity in all the works of benevolence, and the high position which it holds, not merely in the estimation of the entire Fraternity, but of the outer world. Craft Masonry, with all its practical surroundings, has become widely popular, but the speculative aspect of the Order has not been forgotten by those amongst us who are specially qualified to examine the records of the past. At no period of our history, perhaps, has greater interest been manifested in researches of a purely literary character, which have for their object the elucidation of the truth with regard to the existence of the Order in remote ages. English Masonry, however, partakes of the practical character of the people, and we need not note that the speakers of Saturday laid great stress upon the benevolent and social aspect of the Fraternity. We are all proud to admit that Masonry can lay claim to undoubted antiquity, but we are prouder still of the great work which has been achieved, in these latter days, by the brethren, whose chief business it is to relieve the suffering and the distressed. We trust that it will be our fortune to chronicle many more such gatherings as that which marks an epoch in the history of the Great City Lodge. In thus doing honour to a Mason who holds a high office in the City of London, its members have set an example which may well be imitated by the brethren generally. A meeting of this kind tends to foster that noble enthusiasm for the Craft which has distinguished so many worthy workers in our midst. It has the effect of lifting the veil which commonly covers the practical doings of the Order, and although Masonry needs no advertisement, and its disciples seek to make no proselytes, yet it is as well that the light of truth should not always be hidden under a bushel.

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QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE.

A remark of ours last week, in connection with the last meeting of the Caveac Lodge, No. 176, when the acting W.M. gave the Lecture on the tracing board in the 1st degree, that it is to be regretted the practice of delivering these lectures is not more frequently observed, leads us, not unnaturally, to the very important question: What are the qualifications for office in the Lodge? Are the qualifications of a candidate for office ever seriously put to the test? The ambition to rise in one's profession is very natural. No man wishes, or perhaps we should say rather, but few men wish to remain apprentices always. Having completed their period of probation, having shown their proficiency in the minor duties of their calling, men aspire to become master-workmen, for then their sphere of labour will be more extensive, and their opportunities for doing good and useful work greater. Similarly, brethren, having attained the sublime degree of M.M., not unnaturally look forward to the day when they will hold some post of honour in their Lodge; in the first instance a subordinate office, and then rising, by degrees, higher and higher, they hope, in the fulness of time, to reach the very enviable distinction of Master. This is all very right and proper, and we should have no very high opinion of any brother, *qua* member of the Craft, who was not animated by such legitimate ambition. Just in the same way every regimental captain aspires to become first a field officer and then a general, and no doubt every man in the ranks would like to be captain of his company. But just as this mere mechanical knowledge of the manual and platoon exercises is not necessarily a qualification for the captaincy of a company; just as the mere knowledge how to command a company is not sufficient for the command of a regiment; while the colonel of a regiment is not always capable of fulfilling the still higher and more important duties of a general officer, so in Masonry. A brother may be a good Master Mason, regular in his attendance at Lodge, zealous in all Masonic duties, and capable, perhaps, of fulfilling some minor office, with credit to himself and the Order generally. He may even attain the still higher rank of Warden, and be found not wanting in the discharge of the still more onerous duties of his rank. But does it follow that he will make a good ruler of his Lodge? We grant that, *prima facie*, a good M.M., who has shown himself an efficient J.D., and afterwards S.W., may be expected to perform the duties of W.M. respectably, if not efficiently. But it must be remembered that different and additional qualities are looked for in a Master. Zeal, of course, we expect in all grades; moreover, we have assumed that in every capacity he has filled he has shown abundant zeal. Punctuality and regularity in attending Lodge—these, also, we have given him credit for, as well as for a righteous desire to shine in works of benevolence. But admirable, nay essential, as are all these traits, they do not fit him for the chair. The command of a Lodge requires something more than zeal, punctuality, kindliness, and a knowledge of the ordinary duties of Craft Masonry. *Parvis componere magna solebom.* A good Speaker of our House of Commons must be something more than a good man of business, a ready debater, a powerful orator. He must be thoroughly acquainted with all the ins and outs of Parliamentary usage. The laws, both written and unwritten, which govern the conduct of public business must be as familiar to him as the A B C of ordinary duties to the ordinary member. A man is generally chosen to fill this office who unites to these qualities the further merit of having a commanding presence, a sonorous, yet suasive voice, ever-ready tact, and not a love only of, but the power to maintain, order at all times and under all conditions. To expect all these qualifications in every W.M. were to carry expectation to an extreme point, for the friendly government of fifty men, more or less, is not as the stern rule of a multitude. But a W.M. should possess, not only the ornamental qualities of his office, such as we have already enumerated, but the useful likewise. Zeal, and an eager desire to promote the welfare of the Craft, are essential. So, too, are knowledge, presence, tact, and resolution. The last two qualities are most imperatively needed. The labour of Masonry is a labour of love, but not all brothers work after the same method. However agreed as to the worthiness of certain ends, they are not necessarily agreed as to the means whereby those ends shall be attained. Hence tact is necessary, so that if members differ, it may be without anger. Hence also firmness and resolution in the conduct of business are necessary. Men readily bow to an authority, when they would yield unwillingly, or with an ill grace, to an equal. Moreover, a Master should not only be the ruler of his Lodge, he should be also its guide and instructor. But to enact this latter rôle he must be intimate with the Constitutions of the Order, with the bye-laws of the Lodge, with the ritual, with even the minutest details of every ceremonial to be observed. The usage and practice of other Lodges should be familiar to him, so that he may never be at a loss, when difficult questions arise, as to what course is the best to be pursued. How much greater is the respect which a young member feels for his Master if he knows the latter is competent to fulfil all the ordinary requirements of his office. How infinitely stronger still is this feeling when he knows that his Master can not only rule and direct him in his duties, but also aid and instruct him how they should be fulfilled. All may not be equally competent. It were as ridiculous to expect this as that all should have the same means. But all may attain a certain standard of competency. At all events, all who aspire to this office should possess, in a certain degree, certain qualities. Without these, or, at all events, till he has acquired them, no member should be deemed eligible. The mere ambition of an individual member, however honourable it may be, is of less consequence than the proper conduct of the Lodge. Preston, on the subject of office holders, says: "It must also be admitted that those who accept offices and exercise authority in the Lodge, ought to be men of prudence and address, enjoying the advantages of a well cultivated mind and retentive memory. All men are not blessed with the same powers and talents, all men, therefore, are not equally qualified to govern. He who wishes to teach must submit to learn; and no one can be qualified to support the higher offices of the Lodge who has not previously discharged the duties of those which are subordinate. Experience is the best preceptor. Every man may rise by gradation, but merit and industry are the first steps to preferment." These are the views of one of our most eminent authorities, that to men "of prudence and address," possessing also "a well cultivated mind and retentive memory" should be entrusted the higher offices of a Lodge. Unhappily for the good government of the Craft, it is not always such men as these who are chosen to support the more exacting duties. Some kind and degree of merit they doubtless possess, but not the merit which enables them to govern well. To faithfully execute the duties of any high office demands more time than it is in the power of every Mason to give, and more talent than every member possesses. Speaking of men who hurry through the several grades, and seek advancement without any qualification to recommend them, Preston observes: "Passing through the usual formalities, they consider themselves authorised to rank as Masters of the Art, solicit and accept office, and even assume the government of the Lodge, equally unacquainted with the rules of the institution that they pretend to support, and the nature of the trust which they are bound to perform. The consequence is obvious; anarchy and confusion ensue, and the substance is lost in the shadow." And again, "Were the brethren who preside at our meetings to be properly instructed previous to their appointment, and duly apprised of the importance of the offices they are chosen to support, a general reformation would speedily take place. This conduct would establish the propriety of our government, and lead men to acknowledge that our honours were not undeservedly conferred; the ancient consequence of the Order would be restored, and the reputation of the Society preserved." It is over a hundred years since *Preston's Illustrations* were first published. "The consequence of the Order" has not only been "restored," but extended; "the reputation of the Society" not only "preserved," but increased. The sublime truths of our ancient mystery are more studied, better understood, more highly appreciated. But even now there are members who look rather to personal advancement than to the interests of the Order. We question if many regard their entrance into and presence in the Brotherhood with the same solemn feelings as our late Grand Master H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex, who, in a speech at Sunderland, in 1839, thus expressed himself—(See Oliver's *Historical Landmarks of Freemasonry*, footnote, p 7):—"When I first determined to link myself with this noble institution, it was a matter of very serious consideration with me; and I can assure the Brethren that it was at a period when, at least, I had

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the power of well considering the matter, for it was not in the boyish days of my youth, but at the more mature age of twenty-five or twenty-six years. I did not take it up as a light and trivial matter, but as a grave and serious concern of my life. I worked my way diligently, passing through all the different offices of Junior and Senior Warden, Master of Lodge, then Deputy Grand Master, until I finally closed it by the proud station I have now the honour to hold. Therefore, having studied it, having reflected upon it, I know the value of the institution; and I may venture to say that in all my transactions through life, the rules and principles laid down and prescribed by our Order have been, to the best of my faculties, strictly followed." If so eminent a Mason did not disdain to qualify himself for the responsibilities of office, it cannot be unwise in members of inferior rank to fit themselves also for such posts as they may aspire to fill. Our rulers should be distinguished by superior knowledge, greater intellectual refinement, and greater prudence. But, to attain this superior knowledge, they must study unceasingly. Then perhaps they will be worthy officers—worthy, that is, in the sense of capable; but not till then or otherwise.

ENTHUSIASM AND MASONRY.

A COLD blooded person, who is determined not to be cordially in love with anything, is usually a determined enemy of enthusiasm. He considers it a decidedly un-English characteristic, and, in his estimation, those people who permit themselves to be carried away by their likes or dislikes are to be carefully avoided. He has no part or lot with them. The questions which excite the feelings of the sanguine section of society have no charms for him. He cannot be enthusiastic about the last new play, or the last new prima donna at the Opera House. He cares nothing for the merits or demerits of a new book, or for the latest contributions to science. If some great light of the scientific world should suddenly attempt to reverse the fundamental truths of physics he would care nothing. If it could be proved that the earth is as flat as a trencher, and not the oblate spheroid we know it to be, he would eat his breakfast with calm equanimity, and con over the births and deaths in the *Times* with the lordly indifference of a man to whom matters of this kind were of no moment. People of this stamp invariably imagine that this attitude of mind is a sign of superior mental endowments. These believe they stand upon a moral platform, far above the heads of the vulgar crowd, for whose aims and hopes or fears they entertain a genuine disdain. The misfortune, too, is that this cynical indifference, whether real or affected, is growing upon society in our large cities. It is undoubtedly an eminently youthful failing, but it cannot be denied that some men, not youthful, who pass for being wise, are as cold-blooded as the typical Englishman in a French play. Where cold-bloodedness is conspicuous in youth it generally arises either from brutality, affectation, priggishness or disappointment. Nothing is more common than to hear a young puppy, fresh from his mother's apron strings, sneering at everything that men of true metal hold dear. He has perhaps just acquired the art of smoking a mild cigar without suffering physical inconvenience; of life he knows little or nothing beyond what he has picked up at second hand from his elders. Yet he affects to a roué upon town, and to be so satiated with its pleasures and its vices that he can afford to speak with sneering contempt of everything in the nature of amusement. He does not know dry from sweet champagne, but he talks of "fizz" with the air of a man who has, in his time, drunk buckets full of the genuine article. He drinks his diluted Hambro' spirit under the impression that it is sherry, and talks of his taste for dry wines, when, in truth, he does not know bottled cider from sparkling Hock, or red ink from claret. He has, he tells you, "seen life to the dregs," an expression which, when translated into English, means that he knows two fighting men, one music hall comic singer, and is on speaking terms with the cads who haunt the restaurants and billiard rooms of London. He is a member of a club, of course, the head quarters of which are located somewhere in the Strand, and here he smokes his bad cigars, and occasionally takes part in a rubber of whist. The members of the club, by the bye, are chiefly of the cad type; they are very much becuffed and bejewelled, wear clothes of a loud cut, and rejoice in hats of the most resplendent brilliancy. If it has ever been your fortune, or misfortune, to get into a circle of this kind you will find that you have entered upon a world in which the code of ethics and the notions of honour are widely different to those ideas which prevail in our dull, old-fashioned sphere. Honour, in the sense of being truthful, exact in the duties of life, and courteous to the fair sex, is travestied by a burlesque, the leading points of which are the reverse of these old-fashioned marks of the gentleman. These young fellows rarely speak of a woman without libelling her, or of a tradesman without rejoicing over the fact that these persons are green enough to trust their goods to those who never pay. They will talk of "rubbing a good lie" into a troublesome dun with all the effrontery of men in whose eyes truthfulness is a quality only becoming in clowns or simpletons. They talk of "going on the loose" for a month or two at a stretch, and in the same breath boast of their muscles, and of the ease with which they might recover all their old strength and agility if they were to go "into training" for a week or two. One will boast that he has fought a glove fight with a blackguard professional for a prize of ten pounds, and has won it. Another brags of his intrigues with the vilest creatures upon town, while a third talks of that mysterious land, upon the borders of respectability, where cads, in congenial company, reign supreme. This is no overdrawn or imaginary picture, every outline and tint is from the life. A large section of the young men of this great city are going hurriedly to ruin by a most vulgar road, and there is no power on earth that can stop them. The vast increase of wealth in this country has brought to the surface of society a vile scum bearing all the outward signs of respectability and all the inward marks of the savage and the rough. An educated ruffian is probably the most repulsive of all the beings that bear the outward semblance of men. The training of school or college has given them a thin varnish, which, unlike the veneer of a better system of culture, does not even hide the coarse texture of their natures. The educated brute has enough knowledge to speak grammatically and with a tolerable accent. He knows how to swindle in the city, and how to speculate on 'Change. He may be able to converse in two or three European languages, but he is unacquainted with the literature of any language. His mind is dead to all ideas of beauty in its highest manifestations, to every lofty aspiration, and to all those higher domestic sentiments which do so much to ennoble and refine the intellect. He never speaks of marriage without contempt, and virtue, a woman's greatest glory, he regards as an idle delusion of the "goody-goody" writers of an almost forgotten school of fiction. Manliness, as he understands it, is a compound of blackguardism and meanness, mendacity and sharperism. His idol is a creature who cheats in the city, and makes a "pot of money," which he spends upon racing, and in the coarsest sensuality.

If the majority of Englishmen were like beings of this description, we might, indeed, mourn over the decline, and approaching fall of a great people. If enthusiasm were dead, if all the noble impulses of humanity had passed from our midst, these islands would soon fall a prey to the first brigand power on the continent that cared to annex them. Happily, there is yet salt enough in the country to keep us sweet. There is still enthusiasm left amongst us. Some of us, at least, live as if life were a mission, and as though there were a God above to weigh the deeds of humanity in His eternal scales. It is a positive relief to turn from the contemplation of the hells and slums of the town, and enter, in imagination, one of those noble temples of Freemasonry which still keep the flame of brotherly love burning brightly. Here, at all events, we meet with men, the object of whose association is a noble one; who are enthusiastic in the cause of a brotherhood which comprehends men of every colour and creed, who have hearts to feel for the suffering and the oppressed, and whose watchwords are Charity, in its broadest sense, Sympathy in its widest and most far reaching aspect, and Truth as a thing to be loved for its own sake. There may, indeed, be men in our midst who do not live up to the high code of ethics which is taught in the Lodge, but a good man is the better for being a Mason, while many a weak brother has felt his faltering impulses for good strengthened merely by breathing the atmosphere of a high and pure morality. No man can be a good Mason

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without being an enthusiastic one, and the cultivation of a noble enthusiasm we regard as one of the best signs of mental and moral health in any association of men. The enervating influence of modern society is felt by us all; we need something to quicken our sympathies for our fellows, to awaken our higher impulses, and to sustain us on that path of rectitude which many people find it so difficult to pursue. Our Order supplies these motives, and holds up to the least morally sensitive amongst us a standard by which we may measure our own shortcomings. We bow to no priggish travesty of ethics on the one hand, and sink into no moral slough of despond on the other. True, Masons are men of the world, with their worldly ideas touched and refined by a system which, whatever its origin, possesses immense power for good. If, as Matthew Arnold says, religion is nothing more than "morality touched with emotion," then Masonry may be defined as social intercourse tempered and refined by morality and religion.

ROYAL AND IMPERIAL FREEMASONS.

LAST week we briefly noticed the connection of our own Royal Family with Freemasonry. We now supplement that sketch by an equally brief one of the connection of Foreign Princes with our Order. First on the list appears Francis of Lorraine, Grand Duke of Tuscany, and afterwards Emperor of Germany. He, by virtue of a deputation from Lord Lovel, our then Grand Master, was received into the first two degrees of the Order at a Lodge held at the Hague, Lord Chesterfield, at that time our ambassador there, presiding. His Highness coming over to England the same year (1731), was raised to the third degree at an occasional Lodge convened for the purpose at Houghton Hall in Norfolk, the seat of Sir Robert Walpole. Francis, though his wife, the Empress-Queen Maria Theresa, disliked Freemasonry, gave it on all occasions his countenance, as did even the Emperor Joseph. On the 15th August 1738, Frederick, then Crown Prince of Prussia, and celebrated in history as Frederick the Great, was initiated in a Lodge at Brunswick, under the Scots constitution, and so highly did he approve of the institution that shortly after his accession to the throne, in 1740, a new Lodge was, at his instigation, established in Berlin, and called "*zu den drei Weltkugeln*" (the Three Globes). This was advanced in 1744 to be the Grand Mother Lodge, and is now known under the title of the Grand National Mother Lodge of the Three Globes. Frederick himself assumed the Grand Mastership, but the cares of Government preventing him from attending to the duties of the office, a vice-Grand Master was nominated in 1747, in the person of the Duke of Holstein-Beck. On the 22nd May 1840 Prince William of Prussia, the present Emperor of Germany, was, with the approval of his father, King Frederick William III., initiated into Freemasonry, in the Hall of the Grand Lodge of Germany, in the presence of the Grand Officers of the three Grand Lodges of Berlin and others. In accordance with the expressed proviso of the King, Prince William assumed the Protectorship over the three Grand Lodges, without regard to any difference of system. In 1853, Prince Frederick William of Prussia, now Imperial Prince of Germany, and husband of our Princess Royal, was initiated into Masonry, under the auspices of his father. In France, Louis Philippe, Duc de Chartres, afterwards Duc d'Orleans, and known generally as Philippe Egalité, became Grand Master, in 1771, of the "*Grande Loge Nationale de France*," in succession to his relative Louis Duc de Bourbon and Comte de Clermont. He was the first Grand Master of the Grand Orient of France, but abjured Masonry in 1793, when France had become a Republic. In 1805 Joseph Napoleon, afterwards King of Spain, became, with the sanction of his brother, the Emperor, Grand Master of the Grand Orient of France, with Cambacérès and Murat as joint assistants. Joseph, however, was not a Freemason. In 1809 Murat, at the time King of Naples, and the celebrated cavalry general of the Great Napoleon, sanctioned the establishment of a Grand Lodge in Naples, and himself became Grand Master. In Sweden, Charles, Duke of Sudermania, held the Grand Mastership from 1780, when the Grand Lodge at Stockholm was established, till 1818, the year of his death; but in 1811 he resigned the hammer of office to his adopted son and successor, Charles John, the celebrated Bernadotte. During his tenure of office Duke Charles presided in person at the initiation of King Gustavus in 1793. The Duke ascended the throne as Charles XIII. in 1809, and on the 27th May 1811 he founded the Order of Charles XIII., the highest degree in Swedish Freemasonry. The reigning sovereign is Master, and, besides Princes of the Royal house, the Order could only consist of twenty-seven secular and three ecclesiastical members. It could only be communicated to Freemasons, and its distinctive characteristics were to be worn openly. When Bernadotte ascended the throne the Crown Prince Oscar (afterwards Oscar I.) was made Grand Master in the Swedish Grand Lodge, and on his death, in 1859, was succeeded by Charles XV. During Prince Oscar's administration the re-union with the Grand Lodge of Germany took place. We mentioned, last week, that Ernest, Duke of Cumberland, son of George III., was initiated into Masonry during the Grand Mastership of his brother, the Prince of Wales. In 1828 a Hanoverian Grand Lodge was established, of which His Royal Highness became Grand Master. In 1857 his son, the present ex-King, George V., was initiated, and became head of this Grand Lodge, but on Hanover becoming part of the North German Confederation, after the war of 1866, its Grand Lodge was dissolved by a Cabinet Order of 17th February 1867. We close the list with Prince Frederick of the Netherlands, who became Grand Master in that country in 1816, and still holds the office. On 25th November 1866 the fiftieth anniversary of his Grand Mastership was celebrated by the Grand Lodge, with great splendour; and, in commemoration of that auspicious event, the Prince presented to Grand Lodge his rare collection of Masonic books, manuscripts, &c., formerly the property of Bro. Kloss deceased. May our Order ever continue under such illustrious auspices, both abroad and at home!

THE EGYPTIAN RITUAL OF THE BOOK OF THE DEAD.

By Frater John Yarker, Manchester.

(*A paper read before the Rosicrucian College, Manchester, 20th March* 1875.)

OUT of Egypt have I called my son (Matthew ii. 15), are words of the Gospel of St. Matthew, the apostle of Jesus, and in them there is doubtless concealed a mystery. If, in the attempt to develope this in the remarks I am about to make, I take any brother by surprise, I can assure him that my statements are strictly accurate, and proved by such great Egyptologers as Baron Bunsen, Lepsius, Champollion and Birch.

In the first place, I will, in some measure, disarm criticism, by reminding you that the Biblical Chronology is an uninspired addition of later times, made by Scribes and Rabbis, who seem to have misunderstood the sacred text and followed a speculative system of their own, as the general data is opposed to that of the various scientific schools of modern times; but, nevertheless, the sacred writings have, undoubtedly, both an historical and symbolical character.

So immense is the range of subject which I have feebly undertaken to illustrate, that I must necessarily touch upon the various points of enquiry in the briefest possible manner. Some of the doctrinal points bear such close correspondence to Christian ideas, that they will doubtless astonish those of you who have no previous acquaintance with the subject; and hence my need to remark that I am giving you an unembellished narration.

To my mind, the very fact of the immense antiquity of these religious dogma, is of itself the strongest proof of the reality of the birth and divine nature of Jesus, since if He did not, as we are required to believe, die and rise again to fulfil the mystery of the world's faith, it would have been impossible for a few simple-minded fishermen to have made any advance against the opposition of a vast and learned organisation of such ancient lineage, whose faith and teaching embraced so much in common with Christian truth, as to render useless the propagation of a new and imaginary incarnation, which the older faith accepted at once, and miraculously, as the complement of their own.

Modern Science rests its proofs of the antiquity of mankind upon a reasonably sure foundation, and its demonstrations embrace various branches of Science:—1. Linguistic, which considers the development of speech. 2. Geological, showing the discovery of human remains in ancient strata. 3. Works of Art, which are found deposited at great depths, and indicating in Egypt a civilisation of ten thousand years. 4. Ethnological, considering the distinction of change of colour, which becomes marked after great lapse of time only. 5. Artistic monuments, attesting a civilisation of ancient date, themselves showing an antiquity of 5000 years. 6. Historical and Astronomical, which compare the ancient dates of the old empires of the world. All forming an aggregation of proof that chronologists have endeavoured to bridge over the absence of records by the reduction of dates, and the treatment of nations and periods as individuals and years of time. The most reasonable speculation as regards the antiquity of man is that founded upon the astronomical

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cycle, or mutation of the earth's elliptic, which was at the most favourable position for man's development somewhere about twenty thousand years B.C., and at the least favourable about 9500 years B.C., which is the period speculatively assigned for a cyclical deluge in Central Asia. The equal period was about four thousand years B.C., and from this age the ancient nations have transmitted an historic consciousness, as if the invention of a mode of recording thought dates from this time.

The study of language, and the records of historical knowledge, point to the cradle of man as being placed on the highlands of Central Asia, bounded by the Altai, the Ararat, and the Caucasus, in a region whence branched the Oxus and Jaxartis eastward, and the Euphrates and Tigris westward. Thence departed east the worldly husbandman Cain, after slaying his spiritual brother, the shepherd Abel, the one offering an animate, the other an inanimate sacrifice, and typical still of warring Eastern sects. This first emigration founded the Turanian nations and family of languages, of which the Chinese is the representative brand, an ancient monosyllabic tongue, of which each word represents an idea, and each idea is represented by a hieroglyphical picture. From another emigrant tribe proceeded the Chamitic Egyptian, who carried his spoken language but one step further before it became petrified upon the banks of the Nile, with its attendant hieroglyphics; as also the Semitic race, which proceeded another step in advance, when it became staid by an alphabet of Phœnician origin; whilst the Japhetic race overran the earth, and transmitted the modern languages of Europe. In all probability the Chamites and Semites continued together for some centuries after separation from the primitive home; this appears necessary to account for the relative state of the two languages.

From the most remote time the Zend Avesta, and the Vedas, have recorded the fact of some catastrophe which produced a cyclical deluge in Central Asia, in the region of the Aral and the Caspian, and which so changed the original temperature to extreme cold that the remaining tribes were compelled to separate in search of a more suitable climate.

From the first separation proceeded an Accadian race who peopled the Chaldean region, until some great tyrant was expelled by the Biblical Nimrod, who founded a dynasty of Kings of a world-renowned empire. The substratum of his kingdom is shown to be Scythian, or Turanian, but at a later time included at least three different languages. This dynasty in turn, after making great progress in Astronomy and Astrology, succumbed about 2200 years B.C. to Median followers of the system of the great Baetro-Aryan reformer, Zoroaster, whose opponents established Brahminism. Here it is to be observed that all nations of Aryan descent have a tradition of a great natural catastrophe, whilst the same is absent amongst the Turanian and Chamitic races, whilst, had we the means of separating the historical elements, we might perhaps find that the Semitic version proceeded from the Median conquerors of Babylon, for the sacred volume is not intended to teach Science, but the ways of God and moral truth. In a similar way the Aryan Buddhists have introduced the Flood traditions into the religions of China.

This brief preface will enable you to comprehend the general unity of religious ideas which we find amongst all nations. From the ancient cradle of our race the branching tribes carried with them an identical religion, which was more or less developed by them, according to their receptive capacities, which are perhaps influenced in a greater degree by climate than we are aware of. The ancient cosmogonies all begin with the Mundane egg. The Chinese representation is divided by the line of beauty into male and female halves. At the beginning all things were in universal chaos, until, by the operation of the two principles, the grosser parts coagulated to form *earth*, whilst the more etherial part ascended upwards to form the *heavens*, and man came into being as the offspring of these two. The Chinese teach the immortality of the Soul in the worship of ancestors and deified sages. They have personified the elements, as Diodorus reports of the Egyptians, and they have, besides, a god of war, a god of letters, and a supreme god, to all of whom the nation offers annual sacrifices through the Emperor. At their funerals they sacrifice a white cock and a black hen, and their coffins are of a most durable nature.

The Babylonians taught a cosmogonical system, commencing with chaos, and developing, by a gradual process, to spiritual consciousness, through:—1. Time and mind; 2. The Dimuirge; 3. Creator of sun, moon and stars; 4. Creator of man, when the God Bel, or El, cuts off his own head, that the Baalim, or Elohim, or generative principle of nature, might mingle his blood with the dust of the earth, that created man might derive from the same essence as Divinity. The myth amongst the Phœnicians takes a different form, for it is a rebellious son that cuts off one of the members of his father, and from the deluged earth man arose. In the form used in the mysteries of Lamdthrace two gods murder a third; whilst the legend of Osiris is so well known that it is almost unnecessary to remind you that Isis never recovered the generative principle of the murdered and re-born Osiris, for it became commingled with nature. From these symbolical myths arose the initiatory ceremony of circumcision, which the Rabbis say is incomplete unless blood has been drawn. The Egyptian "Book of the Dead" says "The blood is that which proceeds from the member of the sun whilst he goes along cutting himself."

These bold expressions of youthful language embody the idea of a personal creator of all things, sacrificing his own life that man might be born with a divine intellect and comprehension of the true and the holy.

There are some ancient Babylonian legends, recorded in arrow-headed characters, hundreds of years before the Christian era, in a sort of epic history regulated by the twelve signs of the Zodiac, or months of the year; under the sign of *Aquarius*, or the rainy month, it is recorded that Izdubur, the Biblical Nimrod, expelled a tyrannical power, and had an Astrologer of the name of Heabani, resident at his court, who was raised to heaven at the command of the God Hea, the ruler of Hades and Ocean and the Pluto of the Greeks. Izdubur being sick, repaired to the sea coast, where he met the aged saint Hasisadra, the Biblical Noah, from whom he received the account of the deluge and the "secrets of purification," and these legends are as old as 2000 years B.C. There is also found recorded there the account of the fall of man, and the rebellion amongst the gods, in a fuller history than that of Genesis. Under the sign of *Virgo* it is recorded that Queen Ishtar sought her dead husband in Hades, whither he had departed "to be like the gods," or, in the words of Scripture, "he was not, for God took him." On entering the realm of spirits Ishtar had to pass through seven gates. Within the first the crown was taken from her head, in the second the earrings from her ears, in the third the precious stones from her head, in the fourth the gems from her forehead, in the fifth the girdle from her waist, in the sixth the golden rings from her hands and feet, in the seventh the last garment from her body. Beyond the tomb arose the soul to new life, where wealth was naught, worth alone esteemed; virtue was honoured, rank and wealth despised. The region of the blessed was named Samu, and presided over by the Supreme God *Asa*, whilst Ifea presided over Arelli or Ifell.

The seven gates, and the descent into Hades, prevailed in the Egyptian mysteries, and were symbolised by the Pleiades, the seven planets, the seven worlds, and the seven steps of the throne of God; they were common to the Mythraic mysteries of seven caverns and seven degrees; they are found in the Brahminical doctrine of the seven lower and seven upper worlds, to which two others are added as the residence of divinity, against whom an evil principle is continually contending. A planet was devoted to each day of the week, Saturday, the old Sabbath, being Saturns day, and a universal holiday.

It is, however, in Egypt, to which we now entirely turn, that we find the most perfect information in regard to the old religions, because of the care with which they are recorded to have preserved ancient tradition, and because of the great antiquity of their manuscript and monumental records, which providence has preserved to us for our instruction.

This extraordinary race had a thoroughly developed religious system 5000 years ago, at which time Menes united Upper and Lower Egypt into a single empire, and embodied a hieroglyphical representation of seven great cosmogonical and psychical deities whose worship had prevailed in the twenty-six Nomes of that already ancient country. This great Emperor, the descendant of a race of prophets, priests and kings, built the Temple of Memphis, and advanced the worship of Heseri and Isis in the whole united empire.

We learn from monumental sources, which are now as easily read as Greek inscriptions, that Pthah and Neith (who as first cause have other names), produced Ra (or Helios), the life-giving property of the solar orb, which again produces Agathedæmon (spirit, Knoph). After this, Chronos (Saturn) and Nu (Rhea), representing time and space, and the primal waters, necessary for the development of things, produced Heseri and Isis, Set (Seth or Typhon) and Nephthys; and they, Horus, Anubis, and Ifermes, or Thoth, who as "the eighth," or revealing God, makes known the others to mankind. Diodorus treats four of these gods as personifications of the four elements, by which initiates in the mysteries of Isis were tried and proved before reception.

All notion that these gods were deified men has exploded. Heseri or Osiris is believed to be identical with the Phœnician Asar (Asdar, great—Assyrian Ashur), the psychical God, the primitive man-soul, combining the qualities of all the cosmogonical gods, not deified man, but man deified in Osiris; the Set, or Seth, of the Semites, whose worship became an abomination amongst the Egyptians when conquered by the Arabians, and made tributary to these Ifyksos, or Shepherd Kings, about 1500 years after Menes, and hence became identified with the spirit of evil.

The oldest known copy of the "Book of the Dead," is about 4500 years of age, but at that date it had ceased to be intelligible to educated priests without a commentary, which had been gradually extending, and appears side by side with the text in papyrus and monumental inscriptions of this age; so that several thousand years more must be added for the ancient text, which Champollion well describes as a "mythical description of the progress of the human soul in the future state."

There are great difficulties in the translation of this book, owing to the mystical and esoterical nature of the subject, and there is evidence that, 5000 years ago, it was as difficult to the "wise Egyptians" themselves. The 161st chapter refers to the Orientation of the coffin, which was to be so placed that the four winds blew upon its four sides. There are three supplementary chapters, with foreign names, which refer chiefly to the worship of Ammon-Ra, the "hidden one."

The principal orders of gods mentioned in the Ritual, are the *Nu*, similar or associate gods; the *pe-t*, or celestial cycle; the gods *Neteru*; and the chiefs *Gaga*. Different dogmas prevail about the primal or celestial waters; the principle one is that they emanated from the *Nu* or celestial element, or rather from the sycamore, the emblem of that goddess. One chapter alludes to the building of a house upon earth, whilst the vignette refers to the drinking of the waters of the sycamore of the goddess *Nu*. Besides the spiritual gods there are the enemies of the deceased, the *Kefti* or accusers, the *Mu* or dead, and *Bet mes* or depraved. Two antagonistic beings appear throughout the Ritual: Osiris and his triad, the supporters and prototype of the good or justified, and Set or Baba and his devils—the evil principle, always endeavouring to subvert the good principle, or Osiris and his followers. Physically they are divided into light and darkness, symbolically they are represented by the Sun and the great dragon Apophis. The Semitic book of Job represents Satan, or the destroyer, as having access to the preserving god, and wandering "to and fro in the earth," seeking to tempt and destroy. In the Ritual the soul of man would appear to be an uncreated being, but the breath of life is the especial gift of Tum, the *Setting Sun*, invisible in darkness, hence an astrological phase presents itself.

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On all occasions Isis and Nephthys render aid to the deceased. Thoth justifies him, Anubis embalms him, Horus defends him.

This book, so sublime and magnificent, and so consolatory in its immense antiquity, carrying us upwards to mankind in their youth, fresh from the hands of the Creator, is the best defined of the ten sacred scriptures of the Chamites.

It commences with a hymn written in the name of Thoth, which was recited upon the descent of the mummy into its last resting-place. It says:—"Ho! Companions of Souls, made in the house of Osiris, accompany ye the Soul of the Osiris (deceased) with yourselves to the House of Osiris. Let him see as ye see; let him hear as ye hear; let him stand as ye stand; let him sit as ye sit. Ho! givers of food and drink to the spirits, souls made in the house of Osiris, give ye food and drink, in due season, to the Osiris with yourselves. Ho! openers of roads! Ho! guides of paths to the soul made in the abode of Osiris! open ye the roads, level ye the path to Osiris with yourselves." It requires of the deceased that he should have "fed the hungry, clothed the naked, buried the dead, and loyally served the King." Five principles were necessary to complete a man—*Ba*, soul; *Ahk* or *Khu*, intelligence; *Ka*, existence; *Khaba*, shade; *Khe*, body; *Seh*, mummy; the first was represented by a hawk with a human head and arms.

The first death of the soul was its birth into the world, imprisoned in the human form, considered as the egg of the God Seb (or Saturn); the object of the "Book of the Dead," was to teach the soul how to avoid "the second death in Hades," and to deliver itself from the various adversaries and lyers in wait, who sought to accuse, destroy, or detain it, on its passage or destiny. A priest of Ammon-Ra (the Theban name of Ptah) says: "I have written 64 books to decapitate the Apophis, cast his soul into the fire, his body into the flames, and his limbs into the eye of Horus."

The principal ideas connected with the earlier part of the Ritual is the living after death, and the being born again as the Sun, which, however, is only symbolical, for the Book says expressly: "Oh! workmen of the Sun, by day and by night, the Osiris lives after he dies, like the sun daily, for as the Sun died and was born yesterday, so the Osiris is born."

The soul is spoken of as the greatest of created things as the beloved of the divine Heseri, "the meek-hearted, the justifier," as he is often styled in the Ritual. The Book says: "Ho! Soul, greatest of things created, let the Osiris (deceased) go. (Having seen he passes from the gate, he sees his father Osiris, he makes away in the darkness to his father Osiris, he is his beloved, he has come to see his father Osiris, he has pierced the heart of Set to do the things of his father Osiris, he has opened all the paths on heaven and earth.) He is the Son beloved of his Father, he has come from the mummy a prepared spirit. Ho! Gods and Goddesses give way."

The Ritual enables the soul to revisit its mummy, and even to metamorphosise and restore itself. Sometimes the soul is described as *Son* and sometimes as *brother* of the divine Heseri. Aware of the divine nature of his soul, his being, he exclaims: "I know that I was begotten by Pthah, brought forth by Neith," who were primal cause of all that developed into Heseri and Isis. He becomes a god, or as a god, brilliant as the sun, the gods exclaim: "Hail, coming as Tum, created by the creator of the gods," and of the sun, they add: "Hail those greater than the gods, rising in the heaven, ruling in the gate. Hail thou who hast cut in pieces the scorner, and strangled the Apophis," by which simile mortals were encouraged to combat against evil. Like Osiris, the deceased is the victim of various diabolical traps and persecutions, over which he triumphs by the *gnosis*, or knowledge, of celestial and infernal mysteries which he possesses.

At length the soul of the Heseri (deceased) is conducted into the presence of the divine Father, who is seated with forty-two judges, in the "Hall of the Two Truths," decorated with the emblems of truth and justice, which were originally one idea, the cubit and the ostrich-feather being their emblems, whilst as a symbol of their eternal life, they bear the ring-handled tau Cross, a difficult emblem, of which the most probable explanation is phallic (?). The forty-two assistant judges of Osiris were represented by forty-two earthly judges, who gave or refused burial to the mummy accordingly as the life of the deceased had been good or evil, for the Egyptians in mortal life kept ever in view the heavenly. Before the forty-two immortal judges, in the Halls of Osiris, the soul had to deny forty-two sins. A remarkable part of one chapter is the mystical addresses of the doors, lintels or two door pillars, planks and other component parts of the "Hall of the Two Truths," which refuse passage to the soul till the aspirant has been examined in their mystic names, the which doubtless refer to secrets of initiation.

This heavenly residence or city is described in various chapters as composed of seven halls, seven staircases, fifteen gates with a guard at each, whose mystic name it is necessary to know, twenty-one gates, fourteen abodes, and ten karr or chambers. There is mention of the "Places of the spirits in the Isles of the West," in one of which a place of "New birth" is situated, and there are various pits or pools, fatal to the reprobate or unjustified. A chapter preserves the soul from the seven mortal sins which lie in wait at the balance ready to destroy the heart of the soul of the deceased. The soul is described as going in as a hawk, and coming out as the phœnix; having passed through the roads of darkness he comes forth with joy, exclaiming: "I come forth with justification against my enemies; I have reached the heaven, I have passed through the earth; I have crossed the earth at the footsteps of the spirits a living chief." The renovated soul eats, drinks, and performs all the functions of life, as if still amongst living mortals, but the corruption is "wiped out of his heart," by the fourteen trials which delivered him from the evil genii. "There is not a limb of him not as a god." He is triumphantly crowned as a faithful soldier of the gods, who thus address him: "Thy Father Tum has bound thee with this good crown of justification, with that living frontlet: beloved of the gods thou livest for ever."

Baron Bunsen thus comments upon the teachings of this, the most ancient book in the world, and his views are entirely consonant with the Ritual:—

The perfected soul is called the "Son of God." Osiris; man, after having passed through the judgment of the lower world, becomes united with the Father. Osiris worship is the psychical element, as that in which the cosmic element attains to complete consciousness. Osiris is not deified man, but man justified in Osiris. What appears to be historical in the myth is, on the contrary, undisguisedly symbolical; Osiris is the God of the human soul, not merely of nature. Osiris is the human God, the God-man; the man-soul. According to this highest system, the other Gods are merely personifications of power in matter, or matter in which the powers are manifested. Osiris is the mind—that is, the god of whom we become conscious through time; the personal god, father of the human race, living for the human race. Osiris, as man, is symbolised both in the cosmogonical and the astral circles, for all nature is the symbol of the human mind; being also represented as Phallis, he symbolises in himself as man the creative power of nature in conjunction with Isis. In other words, all the religion of the other circles is in Osiris, but Osiris is not in them. The human soul only becomes properly self-conscious by means of conscience and reason, of will, of action, and of a destiny connected with its own deeds. This is the sphere of the good and the true. Osiris is the judge of the soul, or the god of the world of spirits.

Such is the dogma of Theseri, the petrified religion of a branch of the ancestral family from whom we ourselves descend. The Abrahamic branch of the Semites, being born at a later period, inherited an alphabetical character, and fought strenuously against the personification of God's attributes; and they were right, for every branch of the human family which followed a system, originating representatively in hieroglyphics, have lapsed into idolatry with a natural tendency in the uneducated mind to adore the emblem as enshrining the substance, and of this we see examples even in branches of the Christian Church. Religions are for the many, truth for the few; truth is developed in man, but borne down and obscured by the evils of our material nature and appetites.

We see that all mankind and their religious faith derive from a single source, and that all have had the same blood, nature and knowledge of a creative God under different names: is it possible then to identify the risen Saviour Christ Jesus—who, as God, put on the human form—with the "Meek-hearted, the justifier," of the Egyptian and other nations? Logically we are led to the affirmative conclusion, but each brother must form his own faith. It is an interesting inquiry, comprising all science and all knowledge, and uniting all the human family spiritually, as Masonry unites them morally.

REVIEWS.

All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, 67 Barbican, E.C.

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Dedication Memorial of the New Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, September 26th, 29th, 30th 1873. Compiled by the Library Committee of the R.W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, Free and Accepted Masons. Philadelphia: Published for the Library Committee of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, by Claxton Remsen and Haffelfinger. 1875.

This is a splendid volume, in every respect worthy of the very interesting event in American Masonry—the dedication, in September 1873, of the new Masonic Temple, Philadelphia—which it is meant to commemorate. No expense has been spared in its preparation. The utmost pains have been taken in order to secure that the narrative should be as complete in all its details as possible, while the archives of the Craft have been searched in order to give as accurate and as full a sketch of the History of Freemasonry in the United States as could be compiled. The volume is handsomely, nay, even elaborately bound, the matter well printed, and on excellent paper, while the illustrations—the chief of which are photographs—are sufficient in number, and admirably taken. The publication of this memorial was duly sanctioned by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and the Library Committee, with whom the business rested, certainly deserve the hearty thanks of the Fraternity for the successful accomplishment of their task. We have seen few handsomer or more interesting volumes, few worthier of an honoured place in a Mason's library or drawing room.

The greater part of the contents is devoted to the history of the new Masonic Hall, its foundation, and consecration. First we are told how, owing to the increase of the Order, Grand Lodge resolved on establishing new and larger quarters for the Craft. Then follows an account of the ceremony of laying the corner stone by R.W. Grand Master Vaux, in 1868, and then the several ceremonials observed at the consecration of Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter, and the Asylum of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, with the banquets that followed in each case. Statistics of the cost are also furnished, and from these it appears that a sum of over a million and a half dollars was expended on the purchase of the site, the construction, and the furnishing of the edifice. Of this amount nearly thirteen hundred thousand dollars were spent in building, while the site and furniture cost, in round numbers, 158,000 dollars

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and 118,000 dollars respectively. There is, too, a full description of the interior of the Temple, its various halls and offices, and to close all, a portion of the correspondence with other Grand Lodges, both American and of other countries, on the subject of the opening ceremonials. The small remainder of the work contains a succinct sketch of the History of the Craft in America. This is by no means the least valuable portion of the book, and to this, therefore, we shall direct such further remarks as we have to offer.

Oliver, in a footnote, p. 175 of his edition of Preston's *Illustrations*, and Findel, at p. 352 of his *History of Freemasonry* (Bro. D. Murray Lyon's Edition. 1871. Asher and Co., London), both fix the date of the introduction of Freemasonry as 1733, during the Grand Mastership of Viscount Montagu, though the latter also states there are "intimations" of the previous existence of a Lodge in New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, and that the first authority to establish Lodges in these colonies was accorded in 1730 by G.M. the Duke of Norfolk to Bro. Daniel Cox. Nevertheless, "he holds that the first reliable historical announcement of the existence of Freemasonry in America is to be found in Boston." The compilers of this memorial, however, have concluded that the grant by the Duke of Norfolk may be relied upon. The evidence they offer, if not conclusive to every mind, is eminently respectable. This is hardly the occasion we should choose for analysing the case as stated by the compilers, but these are the documents which they bring forward. Firstly, there is "the Deputation to Daniel Cox, Esquire, to be Provincial Grand Master of the Provinces of New York, New Jersey, and Pennsilvania, in America" under date of 5th day of June 1730 and of Masonry 5730. Then comes "the first printed evidence at present known of the introduction or existence of Freemasonry in America," in the shape of the following extract from "the first column of the first page of the *Pennsylvania Gazette, No.* 108, *December* 8, 1730, printed by Benjamin Franklin:" "As there are several Lodges of Freemasons erected in the Province, and people have lately been much amused with conjectures concerning them, we think the following account of Freemasonry, from London, will not be unacceptable to our readers." We are then told that a letter, under date of 17th November 1754, from a Bro. Henry Bell, of Lancaster, to a Bro. T. Cadwallader, in Philadelphia, is still in existence, in which the former writes:—

"As you well know, I was one of the originators of the first Masonic Lodge in Philadelphia. A party of us used to meet at the Tun Tavern, in Water Street, and sometimes opened a Lodge there. Once, in the fall of 1730, we formed the design of obtaining a Charter for a regular Lodge, and made application to the Grand Lodge of England for one, but before receiving it, we heard that Daniel Coxe, of New Jersey, had been appointed by that Grand Lodge as Provincial Grand Master of New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. We therefore made application to him, and our request was granted." The next evidence, is a notice taken from first column of the fourth page of the "*Pennsylvania Gazette, No.* 187, *from Monday, 19th June, to Monday, June 26th* 1732. *Philadelphia: printed by B. Franklin, at the printing office near the Market.*" This is to the following effect:—

"PHILADELPHIA, June 26.

"Saturday last, being St. John's Day, a Grand Lodge of the ancient and honourable society of FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS was held at the Sun Tavern, in Water Street, when, after a handsome entertainment, the Worshipful W. Allen, Esq., was unanimously chosen *Grand Master* of the Province for the year ensuing, who was pleased to appoint *Mr. William Pringle* Deputy Master. Wardens chosen for the ensuing year were *Thomas Bowde* and *Benjamin Franklin*."

The last evidence is a letter dated 24th November, 1734, from Benjamin Franklin, as Grand Master of the Province of Pennsylvania, to Henry Price, Grand Master of New England, at Boston. This letter is published in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts (1871), and in it Franklin asks that "a Deputation or Charter should be granted, *confirming* the brethren in Pennsylvania in the privileges they at present enjoy, of holding annually their Grand Lodge and choosing their Grand Master."

It is quite natural that the compilers should have stated the case so as, if possible, to induce conviction in the minds of their readers. If their hypothesis could be established, then the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania would be the oldest in the United States. But to embark in matters controversial in the review of such a Masonic volume as this were a little unseemly.

Then follows an account of the various places at which Grand Lodge held its meetings till the year 1754, when it was determined to erect a Masonic Hall, known as the "Freemasons' Lodge." The original subscription list, a *fac-simile* of which is inserted in this Memorial, is now in the possession of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. Then is given an account of the issue of a Warrant, in 1759, by the Grand Lodge (Ancients) met at the Bells' Tavern, London, for the establishment of a Provincial Grand Lodge at Philadelphia —for the schism had penetrated even to these remote regions. This Warrant was signed by Bro. Laurence Dermott, Grand Secretary 1752-70. The original was sent by the hands of Bro. Read, but the vessel on board which he sailed was captured, and the document lost. A second was mislaid, but the *third* was more fortunate, and succeeded in reaching its destination. A *fac-simile* of Grand Secretary Dermott's letter of explanation is annexed, and as it may be interesting to our readers, we quote it *verbatim et literatim*:—

London January 11th 5765

Rt. Worshipful Sir

Permit me to return you my sincere thanks for your very kind letter and assure you that your Warrant has not been retarded thro: any negligence or Omission of mine. This will be more evident when I declare upon the word of a Man that I have wrote these Warrts. for you, the first I delivered to the then Grand Officers in the presence of Joseph Read (of the lodge No. 2) who was the person that made application for it, and am told that the Ship and Warrant was taken by the French—The Second Warrant I delivered to the Senr. Grand Warden (now Deputy) and he to his Servt. and from whence God knows, all the account I can give of it is, that I suppose it was mislaid and consequently lost, doubtless you'll wonder why this seeming negligence, if so I beg leave to make a remark which you little expect—first I give you to understand that your application was made in a wrong Corner I mean the Lodge No. 2 (who were compos'd of very poor Mechanicks (tho: honest men) and Complain'd of a great hardship on them in subscribing 2s. 6 pence each for the first warrant that was sent to Philadelphia—there were two Capital payments made of that great sum which did not amount in the whole to £2 14 0 and about 3 Shills. left unpaid to this day, however the brethren of Philadelphia refunded the Cash which doubtless was Joyfully Recd. The Second Application was made to No. 2 for a provincial Gd. Warrant without any notice taken of the Grand Lodge, however I was order'd to prepare the Warrant which I accordingly did and deliver'd it as above, and upon hearing that it was lost I Recd. Orders to make out another, which I accordingly did and deliver'd as before related. Brother Joseph Read having Recd. Money from Philadelphia to pay for provincial Gd. Warrant was call'd on to pay the same absolutely refused to pay one farthing until the Gd. Officers would first produce a Receipt under your hand that you had Received the said provincl. Grand Warrant. This being A Matter unprecedented as well as disagreeable in the proposal had a sensible effect upon Gentlemen who thought it not altogether Consistant with their duties as Gd. Officers to send ventures of Masonry abroad to persons who had a Warrant (and consequently knew where and who to address) yet did not think it worth while to write to them.——— Hower now it is all over and everything is made agreeable, and I hope will continue so, between the Gd. Lodges of London and Philadelphia. I shou'd not have mentioned these matters was it not that I think it my duty to give you the best intelligence in my power. But to Conclude.—I procured this last warrant and sent it per Philadelphia Packet Captain Baden the Expense of the Warrant and Registry &c. comes to 3 10 6. I have also sent 1 Doz of Constitution Books sold in London at 5s. a piece and One Book bound in blue Morocco and gilt which I beg you'll take care of for the Owner whose Name you'll find in Gold letters in the inside of the Cover.

I am with all due respect

Rt. W.G.M: your devoted humble Servt. &c.

LAU: DERMOTT G S

P: S. as this Letter is Design'd for your worship's perusal only, it is my earnest desire that you repeat no grievance. That you will do me justice in Assuring the Society that next to God I love the Brotherhood.

And finally if you have any business (within my power to Transact in London, command me without reserve.

The history of the Craft is then continued through the War of Independence, and subsequently to the erection of the New Masonic Hall, dedicated in 1811, the cost of which was only a little short of 87,000 dollars. This, unfortunately, was "burned on March 9th, 1819, and was a great loss to the Fraternity." All the old books and papers, historical data, &c., of the Grand and Subordinate Lodges, with but few exceptions, were destroyed. The Hall, however, was rebuilt, and dedicated on 1st March, 1820. In 1852 the then Hall was found to be totally inadequate for the purposes of the Craft, which had gone on increasing in membership. It was accordingly resolved to erect a New Hall, in the gothic style of architecture. The corner-stone was laid by the Grand Officers, &c., on 21st November 1853, and the building was dedicated on 26th September 1855, with full Masonic ceremonies, over four thousand brethren marching in the procession. And now this, which cost, altogether, over 185,000 dollars, has in its turn, and for the same reasons, given place to the New Masonic Temple, of which this volume is the Memorial. Some faint idea of the splendour of this Edifice may be formed from the description of the "Corinthian Hall" where Grand Lodge meets, and which is one hundred and five feet long, fifty-one feet wide, and fifty feet high.

"The Grandeur of this, the largest apartment in the Temple, inspires the visitor the moment it is entered. Above is the broad skylight, made in square sections, with ornamental frosted glass between. On the left hand are four large windows, surmounted by a huge cornice, and divided by Corinthian columns. On the right hand similar columns, with the surmounting cornice circumscribe the Warden's Chair. In the east stands the oriental chair, made of cedar and walnut, set in a recess, and backed by a canopy. All round the cornices are surmounted by a series of coves, vaulting to the skylight line, festoons of flowers and leaves ornamenting the columns below. The brilliant light from the chandeliers, falling upon the blue plush and the red cedar of the furniture, and the blue octagons and squares of the carpet, adds to the beauty. The altar stands in the centre of the Hall, surrounded by the lights. This Hall is the representative of Freemasonry in every part, and its vast size, completeness, and grandeur give it the first place among the Lodge rooms of the world."

The furniture is of walnut and cedar, there are magnificent large chandeliers and candelabra, and splendid decorations, in perfect keeping, and very artistically designed. The seats will accommodate four hundred Members.

May the Order to whose use it is devoted, go on flourishing in the future as in the past!

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THE THEATRES, &c.

DRURY LANE.—On Thursday, 1st April, and Saturday 3rd, OTHELLO. The opera season will commence on Saturday, 10th April.

HAYMARKET.—On this day (Saturday) at 2.0 and 7.30, OUR AMERICAN COUSIN, and (Evening only), THE LOAN OF A LOVER.

ADELPHI.—At 7.0, SARAH'S YOUNG MAN, NICHOLAS NICKLEBY, and the BELLES OF THE KITCHEN.

PRINCESS'S.—At 7.30, ROUND THE WORLD IN EIGHTY DAYS.

LYCEUM.—On Monday and during the week, at 6.50, FISH OUT OF WATER. At 7.45, HAMLET.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.0, TWENTY MINUTES WITH A TIGER. AT 7.30, THE TWO ORPHANS.

STRAND.—This evening, At 7.0, FARCE. At 7.30, OLD SAILORS. At 9.15, LOO AND THE PARTY WHO TOOK MISS. In Easter week, INTIMIDAD.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—This evening, At 7.45, SWEETHEARTS and SOCIETY.

GAIETY.—This evening, ROSE MICHEL.

GLOBE.—THE GUINEA STAMP and BLUE BEARD (revised).

ST. JAMES'S.—At 7.45, BRIGHTON and CONRAD AND MEDORA.

ROYALTY.—At 7.30, CRYPTOCONCHOIDSYPHONOTOMATA. At 9.30, LA PERICHOLE. After which TRIAL BY JURY.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.0, A WHIRLIGIG. At 7.45, OUR BOYS. At 10, A REGULAR FIX.

CHARING CROSS.—At 7.30, DRAWING THE LINE. At 8.15, THE NEW MAGDALEN.

OPERA COMIQUE.—On Monday and during the week, at 8.0, LA FAMILLE BENOITON.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, THE GOOSE WITH THE GOLDEN EGGS. At 8.0, WHITTINGTON.

CRITERION.—LES PRES SAINT GERVAIS, &c.

COURT.—At 7.30, SHORT AND SWEET. At 8.20, LADY FLORA.

SURREY.—This evening, at 8.0, HAMLET.

PHILHARMONIC.—On Monday, THE OLD LOVE and THE TALISMAN.

SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE. — Commencing Monday, HAMILTON'S NEW EXCURSIONS AT HOME AND ABROAD.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—This Day, CONCERT, on Monday, Burlesque, ROBIN HOOD. CAPT. BOYTON'S FEATS. Open daily, AQUARIUM, PICTURE GALLERY, &c.

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EGYPTIAN (LARGE) HALL.—Dr. LYNN, at 3.0 and 8.0.

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THE SECOND ANNUAL RED CROSS BALL will take place, under the auspices of the Grand Council, at WILLIS'S ROOMS, St. James's, on WEDNESDAY, the 31st March, the surplus funds to be devoted to the Masonic Charities and the Grand Almoner's Fund.

COOTE AND TINNEY'S BAND.

Dancing to commence at Nine o'clock.

Double Ticket (to admit a Lady and Gentleman, or Two Ladies), 30s; Lady's Ticket, 16s; Gentleman's Ticket, 18s 6d; to include Refreshments during the evening, and a Champagne Supper.

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10th March 1875.

FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE
67 BARBICAN, E.C.

HISTORY OF THE WEEK.

THE House of Lords had a short sitting on Friday last, when the Royal Assent was given, by Commission, to sundry Bills. The Land Tithe and Transfer Bill was read a third time and passed. The Marquis of Salisbury introduced a Bill to consolidate the Statutes on Indian Legislation, and the Earl of Kimberley drew attention to the inconvenience arising from the Agricultural Children Act not applying to children above 12 years of age, while the Elementary Education Act applied to children up to the age of 13. The noble Earl suggested that the two acts should be made consistent, but the Duke of Richmond would not undertake, on behalf of the Government, to deal with the matter, at all events, this Session. Their Lordships soon after adjourned, for the Easter recess, till Thursday, the 8th prox. The same evening, in the House of Commons, Sir C. Dilke moved for the appointment of a select committee to inquire into existing Election Machinery. In his speech, and in the debate which ensued, many irregularities and some hardships were pointed out, but the motion was withdrawn, on the assurance of the Attorney General that the attention of the Government would be directed to the subject next Session. Further progress was made in Committee with the Artisans' and Labourers' Dwellings Bill, sundry clauses being added thereto, and the Mutiny Bill passed through Committee after certain amendments had been moved and defeated. The greater portion of the Monday and Tuesday Sittings was occupied with the debate on the second reading of the Peace Preservation (Ireland) Bill, which, in the end, was carried by an overwhelming majority. Lord R. Montagu moved a resolution condemning exceptional legislation for Ireland, and affirming that no sufficient grounds existed at the present moment for any such measures. He was supported by a considerable following of Irish Members, but the effort thus to dispose of the measure was, as we have said, unsuccessful, as both sides of the House agreed as to the propriety of, and necessity for the measure. In the course of his speech, Lord R. Montagu referred to the Act exempting Lodges of Freemasons from the operation of certain laws, respecting the taking of oaths and secret meetings. He said that, on inquiry, he had ascertained that the requirements of the Act were not complied with, and accordingly he drew a picture of the Lord Lieutenant and the Chief Secretary being arrested under this Act, and being liable to seven years' penal servitude. The Chief Secretary, however, pointed out that all Societies working under the authority of the Lord Lieutenant were exempt, so the Freemasons, of whom His Grace, of Abercorn was the Grand Master in Ireland, would not be liable as suggested. The House rose at a late hour on Tuesday, and stands adjourned over Easter to Monday the 5th proximo.

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On Friday Her Majesty held a Drawing Room at Buckingham Palace. There was a large attendance of the nobility and gentry, and a number of ladies were presented. So numerous in fact were the ladies who came to pay their respects to the Queen, that two more Drawing Rooms are announced to be held on the 5th and 7th May. The announcement comes thus early in the hope that ladies may be able to make their arrangements without undue pressure. On Saturday afternoon the forty boys on King Charles II. foundation at Christ's Hospital attended at the palace, in accordance with ancient custom, in order to exhibit to Her Majesty their charts and drawings. H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, as President of the School, presented the boys, and the treasurer, Mr. Allcroft, Messrs. W. Brown and C. Nelson, governors, the Rev. Thomas Johnson Potter, M.A., head mathematical master, and Mr. H. Watts Mason, head drawing master, accompanied them.

The visit of the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor to the Great City Lodge, holden at the Cannon Street Hotel, on Saturday, was a brilliant success. There was a large attendance of present and past Grand Officers and other brethren, and the three Masonic charities were represented by their respective secretaries, Bro. Little (Girls'), Bro. Binckes (Boys'), and Bro. Terry (Benevolent Institution). The banquet, which followed, and at which Bro. Headon W.M. most ably presided, was of a very sumptuous character, covers being laid for nearly 200 brethren. His lordship was, on the motion of the W.M. seconded by the W.M. elect, unanimously elected an honorary member of the Lodge.

Nearly the whole of the week has been devoted to the business of athletics. On Friday, Oxford and Cambridge measured their strength at Lillie Bridge. There were nine events, and Oxford secured the honours of six out of the number. On Saturday the boat race came off. In spite of the rather dismal weather, there was the usual large attendance, and the usual bright display of colour. One might have imagined almost that Masonry had turned out *en masse* to do honour to the occasion; having previously thrown open the portals of its temples to all the pretty girls and buxom matrons in the United Kingdom. Fortune favoured the Dark Blue, who won with comparative ease, as, indeed, was generally expected. Thus, of the thirty-two races that have been rowed, Oxford has now won seventeen and Cambridge fifteen. In racquets, too, the former carried all before her, winning four games straight off. On Monday was held, at Lillie-bridge, the annual Amateur Champion Meeting, the prizes being a series of challenge cups, given by Messrs. J. G. Chambers, Lawes, the Earl of Jersey, and other lovers of athleticism. Among the most notable performances may be mentioned the seven miles' walking race, won by W. J. Morgan, in the extraordinary time of 53 m. 47 sec.; the high jump, M. G. Glazebrook (O.U.A.C.), clearing 5 ft. 11 in., and only just failing to achieve 6 ft.; and the four miles' running, which J. Gibb, of the South London Harriers, accomplished in 21 m. 9 sec. The challenge cups are held for a year, each winner receiving also a small silver medal, which he retains as the memento of his victory. Bearing in mind the old saying as to *mens sana in corpore sano*, we wish athletics all the prosperity its most enthusiastic promoters can desire.

Early Friday morning the extensive perfumery manufactory of M. Rimmel, in Beaufort Buildings, Strand, was totally destroyed by fire, only two of the four walls remaining, and the six pillars which supported the front wall. M. Rimmel was insured to the extent of £16,000, but it is believed this will hardly cover the loss sustained. Fortunately, his new stock for the season had been recently removed to his premises in the Strand, and as his factory in Paris is in full activity, the fair sex need have no alarm as to their wants being attended to by this energetic purveyor of both common and uncommon *scents*. The Prince of Wales and the Duke of Sutherland reached the scene of action within two hours of the fire breaking out.

A curious will has just been proved, by which the testatrix, a Mrs. Foulstow, of Plymouth, a widow, bequeaths a capital sum of about £78,000 towards the payment of the National Debt. This amount is invested in annuities revertible to the National Debt Commissioners, and the country will benefit annually to the extent of about £2,300. If two or three hundred widows were to follow the patriotic exemply of this lady the aggregate of these bequests would soon make an appreciable difference in the amount of interest which the country has to pay for its debt. All honour to the memory of Mrs. Foulstow!

The death, after a few days' illness only, of His Excellency the Count de Jarnac, the French Ambassador to the Court of St. James's, occurred on Monday evening, at the Embassy, Albert Gate. The Count, on his mother's side, was of Irish extraction, and had married an English lady. Having chosen the diplomatic career he was, about 1838, appointed Secretary to the French Embassy in London. In his speech at Guildhall, in November last, on the occasion of the Lord Mayor's banquet, Count de Jarnac feelingly referred to his old friendship with the late Sir Robert Peel, the Earl of Aberdeen, and Sidney Herbert. It was only a few months since that he was appointed to the post he occupied at the time of his death.

The death of John Mitchel, who had been in bad health for some time past, will raise a somewhat difficult question. His second return for Co. Tipperary was, as our readers know, petitioned against by his rival, Mr. S. Moore, on the ground of his being an unpardoned felon, but the petition is said to have been lodged with the authorities a few hours after his decease. Will the petition lapse, Mitchel having died before it was presented? In such case, we presume, a new election would have to be made. Or will the question of the validity or invalidity of his election be tried before the appointed tribunal, and if it be decided invalid, the seat awarded to Mr. Moore as claimed? Mitchel was buried at Newry on Tuesday.

There have been some exciting atrocities, in the shape of two murders committed in the neighbourhood of the metropolis and an attempted suicide by one of the murderers. The convict Coates, who lies under sentence of death for the murder of a little girl at Woolwich, is said to have confessed his crime. How thankful the jury who found him guilty must be to know that their verdict is not only in accordance with the evidence, but likewise with the facts.

The French Assembly stands adjourned for a season, and the natural excitement of the Parisians must find something else than politics to satisfy its cravings. The prospect of a Convention between the Carlists and Alphonsists does not seem particularly hopeful. The action of Cabrera is certainly to be commended, his sole object being to secure peace to his unhappy country, but even the beginning of the end seems not a whit nearer than it was before he abandoned the cause of Don Carlos. All Italy and Austria are in a high state of expectancy anent the visit of Francis Joseph, in order to meet his brother sovereign at Venice, early next month. This *approchement* of the two sovereigns and their respective countries is matter for sincere congratulation to Europe. From Germany we hear that the Emperor, though not fully restored to health, is progressing favourably. He completed his 78th year on Monday, and received hearty congratulations from all parts of his Empire. He is yet vigorous intellectually, if not physically. His wife, the Empress Augusta, had a narrow escape a few days since. Her carriage came into such violent collision with an omnibus that the horses were thrown down, and one of them killed. Among approaching Royal visits, that of the King of Sweden to Berlin, about the end of May or the beginning of June, is spoken of, and it is also announced that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales will start for India in the autumn. This last news will be very welcome to the subjects of Her Majesty, the Empress of that country.

On Wednesday next the second annual Ball of the Masonic and Military Orders of the Red Cross of Constantine, K.H.S. and St. John the Evangelist will take place, and, no doubt, under the distinguished patronage accorded to it, will prove a great success. Bros. Coote and Tinney's Band are engaged for the occasion, and it may be as well to announce that non-Masons can obtain tickets if they are so minded. The surplus funds will be devoted to the Masonic Charities and the Grand Almoner's Fund.

We mention, elsewhere, that in the debate on the second reading of the Peace Preservation (Ireland) Bill, Lord R. Montagu made reference to certain clauses in certain Acts of Parliament, which exempt Freemasons from the operation of the laws relating to holding secret meetings, and taking secret oaths, &c. The conditions of exemption are, we believe, substantially the same in all the Acts, but as

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our readers may be interested to learn their nature, we quote the following from the Act passed in the early part of the present reign, which provides :—

That this exemption shall not extend to any such Society or Lodge, unless two of the members composing the same shall certify upon oath, which oath any justice of the peace, or other magistrate, is hereby empowered to administer, that such Society or Lodge has, before the passing of this Act, been usually held; or if so formed, after the passing of this Act, has been so formed, under the denomination of a Lodge of Freemasons, or Society of Friendly Brothers of he said Order, and in conformity to the rules prevailing among the Societies or Lodges of Freemasons, or of such Societies of Friendly Brothers in this kingdom; which certificate, duly attested by the magistrates before whom the same shall be sworn, and subscribed by the persons so certifying, shall, within the space of two calendar months after such formation of such Society or Lodge as aforesaid, be deposited with the clerk of the peace for the county, riding, division, shire, or place where such Society or Lodge hath been usually held, or shall be so formed; provided, also, that this exemption shall not extend to any such Society or Lodge, unless the name or denomination thereof, and the usual place or places, and the time or times of its meetings, and the names and descriptions of all and every the members thereof, be registered with such clerk of the peace as aforesaid, within such two months, and also on or before the 25th day of March in every succeeding year, while this act shall continue in force.

This Act, from the operation of which Freemasons were provisionally exempted, was passed for the purpose of preventing the administration and taking of unlawful oaths in Ireland. There is also the Friendly Societies Act, which the Chief Secretary for Ireland alluded to. The Act passed in George III.'s reign was for the suppression of secret societies and the prevention of seditious practices. In this case the exemption was extended only to such Societies or Lodges as had been held as Lodges of Freemasons before the passing of the Act. A difficulty arose, in consequence, in the Grand Lodge of Scotland, as to the formation of new Lodges. A memorial was accordingly submitted to the Lord Advocate of the day, R. Dundas, who replied that he did not know why the Act was so anxiously limited, but that it must certainly bear the construction assigned, and he gave his opinion that after the 12th July 1799, Grand Lodge had not the right to create new Lodges, except by a direct application to Parliament, to entitle them to do so. Several meetings were held but without effect, till, in 1806, at the suggestion of the Earl of Moira, the Grand Lodge of Scotland determined to follow the practice adopted by the Grand Lodge of England, and assign to new Lodges the numbers and charters of Lodges that had become dormant, or had ceased to hold regular meetings.

The regular meeting of the Grand Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday, the 24th instant, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Bro. J. Clabon, President, in the chair. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. New grants to the amount of £505 were made.

The close of Bro. Baum's direction of the Alhambra Theatre was signalised on Monday by two performances, morning and evening, for his benefit. A number of very popular artistes, including the Vokes family, who appeared in the farce of the *Belles of the Kitchen*, and the Lauri family, who took part in a comic ballet, gave their services on the occasion gratuitously. In the evening, at the conclusion of the grand barbaric ballet, Bro. Baum appeared, in response to a very general call, and delivered a short, but very feeling address, in the course of which he expressed, in happy terms, the regret he felt at the severance of his connection with the theatre, and particularly for two reasons. He must bid farewell to the artistes of the establishment, who had always so loyally supported him in his efforts to make the theatre popular. He would no longer be brought into contact with the theatre-going public, from whom he had received so many frequent marks of approval.

The spirited proprietor of Evans' Hotel, Brother Barnes Amos, has entirely renovated that old established resort. Determining to follow in the footsteps of his predecessors, he has done all he can to add to the comfort of the visitors; a splendid carpet has been laid down, and he has opened the vast hall to the public, for the supply of luncheons and dinners. The evening entertainments remain as before. The well known and talented artist, Mr. Jonghmans, not only gives the *habitués* selections from his repertoire of songs, but also conducts the choruses and glees sung by the highly trained boys. Mr. Dalton is a good tenor, Rowley a clever comique, while the other members of the company invariably receive an enthusiastic reception.

The Earl of Shrewsbury and the Hon. Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms recently entertained, at their mess, in St. James's Palace, H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, Earl Beauchamp (the Lord Steward), the Lord Chamberlain, Marquis of Hertford, the Earl of Ilchester, Lord Skelmersdale and other guests.

The death of Mr. Bateman, the lessee of the Lyceum Theatre, has cast a gloom over the successful performance of Hamlet. The death was painfully sudden, Mr. Bateman having been in excellent health till the morning of Monday the 22nd, and having dined with Mr. Irving the day previous. In the morning, when dressing, he complained of pain in the region of the heart, and remained quiet on the bed during the day. In the evening he died peacefully, as though in his sleep. His daughter, Miss Bateman, being at the time engaged in Hamlet, as Ophelia, was kept in ignorance of the sad event, as also was Mr. Irving, till the performance was over.

Bro. Sir Henry Edwards Bart. has, at the invitation of the M.W.G.M., accepted the Provincial Grand Mastership, West Riding, Yorkshire.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked in the Langthorne Lodge of Instruction, No. 1421, at the Swan Hotel, Stratford, E., on Wednesday next, 31st instant, at 7 p.m., by Bro. B. Cundick, J.W. of the Langthorne Lodge, assisted by several eminent members of the various East End Lodges.

All the members, to the number of over 3,000, in the Sheffield district of the Nottingham Order of Odd Fellows, have been suspended for agitating for the equal representation of all Lodges in the Grand Annual Assembly and other reforms. A large meeting was held in consequence, on Wednesday, at Sheffield, under the presidency of Past Grand Master Councillor Robertshaw. The Grand Master, the Earl of Scarborough, wrote to the effect that he had read the proposed alterations, and considered some of them reasonable. He trusted the discussion would be conducted fairly and temperately, and would result to the benefit of the Order. Mr. Mundella wrote in a somewhat similar strain. Mr. S. Isaacs, M.P., promised to be present, if possible, at the July meeting. Resolutions were passed condemning the action of the Nottingham Grand Lodge, and expressing the determination of the meeting to bring the controversy to a final issue. It was also decided to submit the correspondence to all the Lodges in the United Kingdom.

THE DRAMA.

Nicholas Nickleby—Easter Novelties.

WITH an exceptionally strong cast, Mr. Halliday's new version of the story of *Nicholas Nickleby* was produced at the ADELPHI THEATRE on Saturday last, and with complete success. Avoiding the temptation to complicate the plot by the introduction of too many incidents and characters, Mr. Halliday has, in this play, confined himself to the story of Smike, whose death forms the close of the piece. The iniquity of the system of Dotheboy's Hall is a sufficiently slight *motif* for a drama of this character, but the incidents are, in themselves, so interesting that few will be disposed to cavil with the author on the choice he has made. The parts have been admirably cast, and no better representatives could be found on the stage for some of the chief characters. The John Brodie of Mr. Emery, the Squeers of Mr. John Clarke, and the Newman Noggs of Mr. Belmore, are excellent delineations of eccentric comedy. Smike, himself, finds an admirable exponent in Miss Lydia Foote, who renders the pathetic side of the part as few but herself could render it. The unamiable character of Ralph Nickleby is effectively portrayed by Mr. Fernandez, and Nicholas himself is well sustained by Mr. Terris, Mrs. Alfred Mellon has accepted, and plays, with exceeding fidelity, the repulsive character of Mrs. Squeers, whilst Miss Harriet Coveney as Miss Squeers, and Miss Hudspeth as Tilda Price, are also deserving of much praise. The play has been admirably put upon the stage, and as it is at the same time dramatic and interesting, a considerable run may fairly be anticipated.

The Easter Novelties are now for the most part announced, but do not appear to be of a very startling character. An adaptation of the great French melo-drama, *Rose Michel*, at the GAIETY, the re-opening of ST. JAMES'S THEATRE, under the management of Miss Litton, and the return of a French Company to the OPERA COMIQUE are the most important items in the programme.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All Letters and communications must be addressed to the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, 67 *Barbican, London, E.C.*

L.L.—We will make the needful enquiries, and announce to you the result.

PROVINCE.—We answered the question last week.

WELL-WISHER.—Thanks for the suggestion, which will be duly attended to.

P.M.—You will find a full exposition of the subject in Findel.

CORRESPONDENCE.

All Letters must bear the name and address of the Writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.

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CHARITY STEWARDS AND CHARITY JEWELS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The inestimable services rendered by Stewards to the Masonic Charities, the commendable zeal with which most of them strive to swell the amount of contributions upon their lists, and the sacrifice of personal ease and convenience they cheerfully give are familiar to all. It may, therefore, be a pertinent inquiry, whether, and in what manner, these services are recognised by the governing bodies. As a rule, a Steward neither seeks nor expects recognition. He is assiduous in his work, contented if successful, and asks for no praise. He revels in the pleasing conviction that "virtue is its own reward," and looks for no other. It has, however, always been held that the expressed approbation of our fellow beings is exceedingly gratifying, acting like incense to the nostrils of frail human nature. This human weakness was well understood by the Duke of Sussex, and his knowledge in this respect was exemplified by the institution of a Jewel, to be worn as a mark of distinction by those who have served at least two Stewardships to either of the Charities. A third, and similar subsequent services, are distinguished by additional bars or clasps. Now the question proposed to be discussed is: Are those privileges bestowed equitably upon the deserving, or indiscriminately distributed? The invariable practice at present will not, I venture to assert, truly represent the intentions of the founder. It matters not how exemplarily a Steward has acted, sparing no pains in the collection of subscriptions and donations, or whether he merely pays his Steward's fee and heads his list with five or ten guineas, the reward in both cases is exactly the same. Without for a moment wishing to impugn the wisdom of the authorities who sanction what is so glaringly unfair in principle, yet the fact cannot be ignored that common justice would dictate a more equitable method of recognition. A Steward who, by dint of perseverance, regardless of the many unpleasant obstacles incidental to the performance of such a task as soliciting subscriptions, having many rebuffs, and mindful only that his duties should be well and faithfully done, is surely entitled to greater consideration than the one who does little beyond paying his donation. Would it not tend to the great advantage of the Institutions if the distinctive mark depended, not upon the number of fees and donations, but upon the zeal, as manifested by the results on the lists. Why should distinction be awarded to one, no matter how little deserved, simply because he acted twice as Steward, and not to another who, in his first Stewardship, was the means of benefiting the Charities to ten times the amount. If the Jewel represents an emblem of distinction, and is to be worn as such, greater restrictions are needed in the distribution of them, lest their value should be depreciated, and the effects they had been intended to produce frustrated. It would certainly not be difficult to devise a method more in harmony with justice, and which might, at the same time, act as a stimulant to those whose charitable instincts are rather of the passive than of the active kind. These remarks are not intended to point to those who try their utmost, with all their heart and strength, but whose position in society is of such a nature as to be an inevitable bar to success; but to a not inconsiderable number who are too indolent to persevere, and yet ever eager to obtain the honours. To prevent unfairness might it not be enacted that no Steward shall be entitled to wear the Charity Jewel until he has collected a specified sum in subscriptions or donations, or until such sum has been subscribed by himself in one or more instalments, over and above the usual Steward's fee and donation, necessary to qualify him as a Life Governor, the reward of a bar or clasp to be bestowed upon a stated supplementary amount having been collected. There are doubtless other, and, very probably, much better methods of overcoming the difficulty, and these suggestions are merely advanced to induce discussion upon a subject which certainly merits some attention.

There is another point in connection with this question to which it may not, perhaps, be unprofitable to refer. Subscriptions and donations are not unfrequently forwarded direct to the Secretaries. A Steward, who happens to be aware of the fact and enjoys the acquaintance of that officer, makes known to him the comparative insignificance of his collection. Obligingly, and certainly without direct harm to the Institution, the amount is enlarged from the sums so received. It cannot fail to be perceived that, if such a course was generally encouraged, ultimate disadvantage must accrue. It is giving a premium to negligence. A brother, showing sufficient amount of interest in his duties as Steward, by his wish to augment the total upon his list to what would look something like a respectable sum, and finding no such readily-accessible source whence to procure the accumulation, would possibly be induced to put his shoulder to the wheel, and work with the hearty good will a faithful and conscientious Steward is bound to show. A true labourer in the cause of benevolence starts with the consciousness of many difficulties to be conquered. He would therefore take as his watchword, "*Labor omnia vincit*," and eventually become an example to many others, who would quickly follow in his footsteps.

Yours fraternally,

REGALIA.

COUNT CAGLIOSTRO.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—It may be interesting to your readers to know that the very rare print which you refer to in the article about Count Cagliostro, in your publication of 20th inst., is one of Gillray's Caricatures. I have a copy in my possession, and it has the following, in French and English:—

ABSTRACT OF THE ARABIAN COUNT'S MEMOIRS.

Born, God knows where, supported, God knows how,
From whom descended—difficult to know.
Lord Crop adopts him as a bosom friend,
And madly dares his character defend.
This self-dubb'd Count, some few years since became
A Brother Mason in a borrowed name;
For names like Semple, numerous he bears,
And, Proteus-like, in fifty forms appears.
"Behold in me (he says) Dame Nature's Child,
Of Soul benevolent, and manners mild;
In me the guiltless Acharat behold,
Who knows the mystery of making gold,
A feeling heart I boast, a conscience pure,
I boast a Balsam every ill to cure,
My Pills and Powders, all disease remove,
Renew your vigour, and your health improve."
This cunning part, the arch-imposter acts,
And thus, the weak, and credulous attracts.
But now, his history is rendered clear;
The arrant hypocrite, and quack appear.
First as Balsamo, he to paint essay'd,
But only daubing, he renounc'd the trade.
Then, as a Mountebank, abroad he stroll'd,
And many a name on Death's black list enrolled.
Three times he visited the British shore,
And ev'ry time a different name he bore,
The brave Alsatians he with ease cajol'd,
By boasting of Egyptian forms of old.
The self-same trick, he practis'd at Bourdeaux,
At Strasburg, Lyons, and at Paris too,
But fate for Brother Mash reserv'd the task,
To strip the vile imposter of his Mask.
May all true Masons, his plain tale attend!
And Satire's lash to fraud shall put an end.

It may be interesting to add, that (I believe in 1791) there was published, price 3/6, "The Life of Joseph Balsamo, commonly called Count Cagliostro. Printed for G. Kearsley, Fleet Street." To which Kearsley added the following characteristic note in his Advertisement:—"N.B. Compared with other villains who have at different periods infested the world, Cagliostro raised a degree of wonder at the subtilty of his schemes, the enormity of his depredations, and his hazardous escapes, which no others are entitled to."

Yours truly and fraternally,

JOHN HOGG.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

York, 23rd March.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Your interesting sketch of the life of the imposter, Count Cagliostro, was read by me, and by other brethren in this city, with especial interest, since the York Lodge has in its possession a copy of the rare print published in 1789 to which you have alluded. The visage of the "Count" in this engraving is of the repulsive kind described by Carlyle.

Yours fraternally, **236.**

Two new Gr. Lodges have recently been organized in the United States, the latest one being in Wyoming Territory, and composed of the representatives of Cheyenne, South Pass, Laramie and Evanston Lodges. Edward P. Snow was chosen Gr. Master and J. H. Jeffrey, Recording Gr. Secretary. The Gr. Lodge is to consist of the Masters, Wardens and actual Past Masters in the jurisdiction. The next session of the Gr. Lodge will be held at Laramie City, on the second Tuesday in October 1875. The other is the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory, which was organised at Caddo, Choctaw Nation. Three Lodges perfected the organisation. The next meeting of this body will take place in September next. Granville McPherson was chosen Grand Master, and R. J. Jones Recording Grand Secretary. They both reside at Caddo, Choctaw Nation, I.T.—*New York Courier.*

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DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be greatly obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the kingdom would favour us with a copy of their summonses each time of issue.

SATURDAY, 27th MARCH.

1297—West Kent, Forest Hill, Sydenham.

1462—Wharncliffe, Rose and Crown Hotel, Penistone, Yorks.

MONDAY, 29th MARCH.

79—Pythagorian, Ship Tavern, Royal Hill, Greenwich.
R. A. 188—Joppa, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.

62—Social, Queen's Hotel, Manchester.
302—Charity, Masonic Hall, Bradford.

TUESDAY, 30th MARCH.

141—Faith, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.

M. 39—Eclectic (Installation), Freemasons' Hall, Hartlepool.

WEDNESDAY, 31st MARCH.

869—Temperance in the East, 8 Newby Place, Poplar.

183—Integrity, Freemason's Hall, Manchester.
304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
1083—Townley, Parker, Sting Inn, Bradford, near Manchester.
1219—Stangeways, Dog and Partridge Hotel, Fennel-street, Manchester.
1283—Ryburn, Sowerby Bridge.

R. A. 258—Amphibious, Freemasons' Hall, Heckmondwike.
R. A. 387—Moravian, Masonic Hall, Shipley.
R. A. 435—Mount Lebanon, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street.

THURSDAY, 1st APRIL.

10—Westminster and Keystone, Freemasons' Hall.
27—Egyptian, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
45—Strong Man, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, Basinghall-street.
227—Ionic, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
231—St. Andrews, Freemasons' Hall.
554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
742—Crystal Palace, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge.
822—Victoria Rifles, Freemasons' Hall.
1155—Excelsior, Sydney Arms, Lewisham-road.
1178—Perfect Ashlar, Gregorian Arms, Bermondsey.
1445—Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley, Sandringham-road, Kingsland.
R. A. 2—St. James', Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 9—Morish, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.

21—Newcastle-on-Tyne, Freemasons' Hall, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
31—United Industrious, Guildhall, Canterbury.
38—Union, Council Chambers, Chichester.
41—Royal Cumberland, Masonic Hall, Bath.
130—Royal Cambrian, Bush Hotel, Merthyr Tydfil.
289—Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
300—Minerva, Pitt and Nelson Hotel, Ashton-under-Lyne.
317—Affability, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
669—Tees, Masons'-court, Stockton-on-Tees.
831—St. Hedda's, Masonic Hall, Hartlepool.
974—Pentalpha, Freemasons' Hall, Bradford.
1012—Prince of Wales, Derby Hotel, Bury.
1145—Equality, Red Lion Hotel, Accrington.
1239—Wentworth, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
1304—Olive Union, Masonic Hall, Banks-street, Horncastle.
1379—Marquis of Ripon, Masonic Hall, Darlington.
1513—Friendly, King's Head, Barnsley, Yorks.
1564—Red Rose of Lancaster, Swan Hotel, Padiham, near Burnley.

M. 158—Rose and Thistle, Freemasons' Hall, Bolton.
R. A. 275—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield.
R. A. 861—Rectitude, Corporation Hotel, Openshaw, near Manchester.
R. A. 1214—Scarboro', Station Hotel, Upper Soothill, near Batley, Yorks.

FRIDAY, 2nd APRIL.

706—Florence Nightingale, Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich.
860—Hornsey, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
1469—Marquess of Ripon, Metropolitan Asylum, Ball's Pond-road.
R. A. 259—Prince of Wales, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.

44—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
219—Prudence, Masonic Hall, Todmorden.
242—St. George's, Town Hall, Doncaster.
306—Alfred, 23 Albion-street, Leeds.
321—Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Huddersfield.
817—De Gray and Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon, Yorks.
1230—Barnard, Barnard Castle.

K. T. 10—Royal Kent, Masonic Hall, Newcastle.
M. 169—Starkie, Red Lion Hotel, Accrington.

SATURDAY, 3rd APRIL.

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

308—Affability, Private Rooms, Buttoms, Stansfield.
1158—Truth, Royal Archer Inn, Manchester.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—429—St. Kentigern, Royal Hotel, Penicuik.

TUESDAY—5—Canongate and Leith (L. and C.), 86 Constitution-street.

THURSDAY—97—St. James, St. James Hall, Writer's-court.

FRIDAY—291—Celtic of Edinburgh and Leith, Ship Hotel, East Register-street.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Lodge of Regularity, No. 91.—An emergency meeting was held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, for the purpose of electing a Steward for the installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as M.W.G.M. Bro. Wimperis the W.M. was unanimously elected.

Lodge of Prudent Brethren, No. 145.—The above Lodge met on the 23rd inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street. Bros. Purkess W.M., Thiellay S.W., Moult J.W., J. Boyd P.G.P. Treasurer, G. S. States Secretary, Haslett S.D., Hughes J.D., and P.M.'s J. Last, T. Bull, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. F. Hormusjee, R. Caffall and W. P. Daykin, were passed to the 2nd degree. Bros. F. H. Hays, C. H. Taylor, H. Brooks, W. Wright, C. Weeks, H. Downing and W. Hayre, were raised to the 3rd degree. Messrs. J. E. Ryder, E. Randall, W. Chapman and W. E. Akhurst were initiated, the several ceremonies being satisfactorily performed by the W.M. Bro. T. Bull I.P.M. proposed, and Bro. John Boyd Secretary P.G.P. seconded, that a summer banquet should take place in July, which was carried. Bro. Boyd then said that many members of the Lodge would not have an opportunity of witnessing the installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as G.M., and he hoped the members of the Lodge would hold a private meeting to do honour to that event. He hoped his Royal Highness might long have health to preside over the Craft. The Charity Jewel was presented to the I.P.M., Bro. T. Bull, he having made himself a Life Governor of the two Masonic Charities. The W.M. consented to act as Steward for the Girls' School, and £10 10s was placed on the list of the I.G., who is Steward of the Boys' School. The Lodge was then closed and the brethren separated.

Joppa Lodge, No. 188.—A special Lodge of Emergency was held on the 22nd inst., at the Albion Hotel, Aldersgate Street, City. Bros. S. Hickman W.M., A. Dodson S.W., L. Lazarus J.W., E. P. Albert Secretary, Miller S.D., A. Auerhaan I.G., and P.M.'s J. Abrahams, Hunt, O. Roberts, H. M. Levy, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the W.M. was elected to act as Steward on the 28th April, for the installation of H.R.H. as M.W.G.M., and the sum of £5 5s was given from the Lodge to present him with the jewel to wear on that occasion, as representative of the Lodge. It was also suggested that a ball should take place, the proceeds to be given to the Benevolent Fund. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren separated.

New Concord Lodge, No. 813.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held on the 18th inst., at the Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton. Bro. T. Bartlett W.M. occupied the chair, supported by the Wardens, Past Masters and officers. Bros. Smalley and Westfield were raised to the sublime degree of Master Masons. Bro. Dunn was passed to the degree of a Fellow Craft, and Mr. Wright was initiated, the various ceremonies being perfectly rendered by the W.M. A board of installed Masters was then formed, and Bro. Gabb was presented to the Lodge, and duly installed by Bro. J. Wilson P.M. and W.M. 25, in a very able and impressive manner. The W.M. was then saluted according to ancient form, and invested his officers as follow, viz.—J. Gallant S.W., T. J. Cusworth J.W., Bros. Sinclair Treasurer, W. H. Main P.M. Secretary, Harper S.D., Watkinson J.D., Stear I.G., Walesby Organist, W. S. Taylor D.C. and George S. The W.M. presented Bro. Bartlett, in the name of the Lodge, with a very elegant solid gold P.M. jewel, with suitable inscription, for the excellent manner in which he had conducted the duties of W.M., and Bro. John Emmens P.G.P., in the name of the Lodge, presented him with an address handsomely illuminated, framed and glazed (the illuminated address was the gratuitous workmanship of Bro. Westfield, who had just been raised, of Leyton College, Leyton), and Bro. J. Wilson P.M. then, in the names of the P.M.'s, officers and brethren, begged his acceptance of a massive silver loving cup, with suitable inscription. Bro. Bartlett was visibly affected at these marks of esteem and regard, and briefly returned thanks for the valuable gifts. He said he would withhold his acknowledgments until a later portion of the evening. It was then announced that Bro. Cusworth J.D. was to be a Steward for the Boys' School. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a very sumptuous banquet, provided by Bro. H. Gabb. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and a very harmonious and delightful evening was passed. There were about 27 visitors, among whom were Bros. W. Smeed P.P.G.J.W. (Middlesex), Linzell P.G.D.C. (Middlesex), Winkfield P.P.D.C. Berks and Bucks, Robins 25, Hobson P.M., Painter W.M. 719, Wingham P.M. 25, and Burtenshaw P.M. 859, &c.

Whittington Lodge, No. 862.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on the 15th inst., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street. This being the last night of the season, probably was the cause of so numerous an attendance of the brethren. Bro. W. Haley W.M. was in the chair, and had the support of Bros. T. Kingston S.W., W. Walters J.W., Robert Wentworth Little P.M. P.G.S. (Middlesex) and Secretary Girls' School, Secretary, G. Pritchard S.D., W. Walmsley J.D., and Past Masters W. F. Smith I.P.M., Jas. Weaver P.M. 1319 P.P.G.O. (Middlesex), F. M. Quilty, W. Hurlstone and W. H. Jones. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes confirmed. The W.M. passed Bros. Cole and Brown to the second degree. Bro. Jas. Weaver then took the chair, and, in his usual perfect manner raised Bro. Holland to the 3rd degree, giving also the traditional history and explanation of the tracing board. At the conclusion he was warmly and deservedly complimented. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet. There were several visitors present.

Lodge of Montefiore, No. 1017.—An emergency meeting has been held for the purpose of electing a Steward to attend at the installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, when the W.M., Bro. Gruneburn, was unanimously elected.

Corinthian Lodge, No. 1382.—The brethren of the above Lodge met on Wednesday, 17th March, at the George Hotel, Cubitt Town. This being installation night, the Lodge was called for half-past two. The W.M., Bro. W. Shayes, presided, and worked the ceremony

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of initiation for the benefit of Messrs. Ford, Cairn and Temple, in a very able manner. The Lodge was then opened in the second degree, and the W.M. elect was presented. The Lodge being opened in the third degree, the S.W., Bro. J. Carnaby, was installed W.M. for the ensuing year by the outgoing W.M., Bro. Shaves, in a highly creditable manner, which gave great satisfaction to all present. The officers appointed are as follow:—Bros. Bennett S.W., Searles J.W., Linn S.D., Fisher J.D., Evans D.C., D. Shabee P.G.C.M. Chaplain, Dolees I.G., Grant Tyler. P.M. Carter was appointed Steward to act at the forthcoming ceremony of installation of M.W.G.M. the Prince of Wales. A P.M.'s jewel was voted to the outgoing W.M. At the close of the Lodge the brethren adjourned, and partook of an excellent banquet, provided by Bro. F. J. Deacon, where the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to with great enthusiasm. Among the numerous visitors we noticed Bros. H. Hollis P.M. 167, H. May W.M. 212, Schofield P.M., Mardeet W.M. "Stability" P.M. and Treasurer 1382, and S. Finch 217.

Great City Lodge, No. 1426.—An Emergency Meeting of this Lodge was held on Saturday, the 20th instant, at the Terminus Hotel, Cannon Street, London, when the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, Brother David H. Stone, honoured the members with a visit. Amongst the brethren assembled on this interesting occasion were Colonel Burdett Provincial Grand Master for Middlesex, Sir Albert Woods (Garter), Samuel Tomkins Grand Treasurer, John Hervey Grand Secretary, J. C. Parkinson Grand Junior Deacon, R. W. Little Provincial Grand Secretary for Middlesex and Secretary of the Girls' School, Sir. J. Bennett, G. H. Bass Provincial Grand Treasurer for Middlesex, John Savage Past Grand Deacon, F. Binckes Secretary to the Boys' School, J. Terry Secretary to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, T. Ford I.P.M. Rifle Lodge, Edinburgh, Conrad C. Dumas Past Assistant-Director of Ceremonies, J. A. Rucker President of the Colonial Board, John B. Monckton Town Clerk of the City of London, and President of the Board of General Purposes, the Rev. J. E Cox LL.D. Past Grand Chaplain, T Fenn Assistant-Director of Ceremonies and Secretary of the Prince of Wales Lodge, the Rev. R. J. Simpson Past Grand Chaplain, George Payne W.M. Grand Master's Lodge, Jacob Naton Grand Lodge of America, &c., &c. At a quarter before five o'clock the Lodge was opened, Bro. N. B. Headon presiding, Bro. Townend (the Worshipful Master elect) occupying the S.W.'s chair, and Bro. Seex that of J.W., James Stevens I.P.M., Rev. R. J. Simpson Chaplain, J. Freeman Treasurer, Edward Moody Secretary, J. Stanway S.D., Blackie J.D., Catchpole I.G., and T. Preston D.C. The W.M. then initiated three gentlemen into the Order, working the ceremony in a very satisfactory manner. On the arrival of the Lord Mayor and Mr. Sheriff Ellis, which took place at half-past 6 o'clock, the brethren all rose and gave their distinguished visitors an enthusiastic reception. The business of the evening was then proceeded with, after which the W.M. said he had a motion to submit to the Lodge, which was a most pleasing one to him, and which he was sure the brethren would unanimously agree to, and that was that their worthy brother, David Stone P.M. of the Grand Master's Lodge, No. 1, and Right Hon. the Lord Mayor of London, should be invited to become an honorary member of the Great City Lodge. (Cheers.) Bro. Townend seconded the motion, and alluded to the gratifying fact that the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor's name was to be found on the original petition for the granting of a warrant for the Great City Lodge. The motion was put, and unanimously agreed to. The Lord Mayor returned thanks for the great honour which the Lodge had conferred upon him, expressing his intention to be there as often as his engagements would permit, and said he had no doubt the Lodge would maintain the foremost place in the City of London. The Lodge being closed, the brethren, with their visitors, adjourned to the Large Banquetting Hall, where a grand banquet had been prepared, which was enlivened by the Band of the Grenadier Guards, under the able conductorship of Bro. Dan. Godfrey. At its conclusion the following toasts were given:—"The Health of Her Majesty the Queen;" "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales M.W.G.M.;" "The Right Worshipful Pro Grand Master the Earl of Carnavon K.G." ably responded to by Col. Burdett. "The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, Lord Skelmersdale, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present," was next given and responded to. Brother the Rev. R. J. Simpson, in proposing the health of the Worshipful Master, referred in the highest terms to that brother's true Masonic feeling and admirable Masonic working. The toast was responded to in the most enthusiastic manner, and with the "Great City" firing. The Worshipful Master in reply, said: I thank you most cordially for the hearty and fraternal manner in which you have been pleased to respond to this toast, and I am deeply sensible of the honour you have done me. Having had occasion so often to acknowledge your manifold kindness towards me, I am at a loss, to-night, to find fresh words to express my thanks; suffice it now to say that whatever I have been able to do for our Lodge has been to me a labour of love; and I assure you I feel more than requited to witness the great success and prosperity of the Lodge, and to receive from you so many tokens of your esteem and regard. Bro. J. C. Parkinson G.J.D. next proposed "Prosperity to the Great City Lodge," and coupled with the toast the name of Bro. J. Stevens, the I.P.M. He spoke in glowing terms of the association of Freemasonry with the history of the City, and referred to the prosperity that must cease while the Craft is supported by the distinguished men it now numbers amongst its followers. Bro. James Stevens briefly acknowledged the compliment paid him. The Worshipful Master, in giving the next toast, "The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor of London, Brother David Henry Stone," said their distinguished brother had been one with them in sympathy and spirit from the inception of the Great City Lodge, and the petition for the charter, which he had then the honour to be the guardian of, bore his signature. From a variety of circumstances, and no doubt from the great pressure of other engagements, he was unable to identify himself with them at the formation of the Lodge—a circumstance which they then could hardly regret, for had it been otherwise they should not have had the privilege that night of enrolling him as a member and entertaining him as their guest. They felt that he had conferred a great honour upon them by accepting an honorary membership in the year of his mayoralty, and they trusted that they might have many opportunities of welcoming him amongst them. The Lord Mayor thanked the brethren for the compliment paid to him, and for the kind reception they had given him. Although he might say he was an old Mason, he was afraid he had been rather a negligent one, and had not stuck to the Craft as he ought to have done, but under the influence of the cordial reception they had given to him he was undergoing a kind of revival. He began to feel again that the respect and esteem of his brother Masons was a thing worth living for, and he felt that the brethren had claims upon him. He believed that they were moving in most eventful times, for they had elected the Prince of Wales, the heir to the Throne, as Grand Master; and he might call that another revival. It was some years ago since a member of the royal family was Grand Master, and the accession of His Royal Highness at this time was an event most significant, when the great contest was going on between darkness and light, for Popery and the Pope himself were determined to put down freedom and goodwill; but the Prince of Wales and this country were equally determined that light should prevail, and that everything that was good and graceful should be put forward and stand before mankind. In conclusion, he said he felt sure that the Great City Lodge was destined to become one of the leading powers in Freemasonry. "The Sheriffs" were proposed by Bro. Hutton, and responded to by Bro. Ellis. Bro. Hervey proposed "The Visitors," responded to by Bro. Monckton; and "The Charities" by Bro. Savage; responded to by Bro. Reicker. Bro. Sheriff Shaw was prevented from attending by indisposition.

Metropolitan Lodge, No. 1507.—This Lodge, the warrant of which was the last granted by the late Grand Master, held its meeting at the Metropolitan Club, 269 Pentonville-road, on the 18th inst. Bros. Jas. Willing jun. W.M., Michael S.W., Williams J.W., Rose Treasurer, Tims Secretary, Child S.D., Kingham J.D., J. Douglass I.G. and Scales W.S. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. Trimmings, H. G. Rogers, J. Tims, Halton and Rapkin were raised to the third degree, and Bro. Horton was passed to the 2nd degree, and Mr. W. Read was ballotted for and initiated. A summer banquet was arranged to take place at the Rye House, in July. The W.M., Bro. J. Willing jun., was elected to act as Steward to represent the Lodge at the installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as M.W.G.M. A sum of £10 10s was unanimously voted to purchase a gold Past Master's jewel for the retiring W.M. for his able working, and the high esteem he is held in by every brother of the Lodge. Bro. Michael S.W. was unanimously elected W.M., Bro. Rose Treasurer, and Daley Tyler. Bros. Stiles, Side, and Rapkin were elected auditors. The Lodge was then closed until October, and the brethren partook of a very excellent banquet, provided by Bro. Cox, the Manager of the Club. The W.M. then proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, and the mention of the name of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as M.W.G.M. was received with long and enthusiastic cheers, showing that loyalty and Freemasonry were, as they should be, "Hand to hand, and heart to heart," and how gratifying it was to see the heir to the throne at the head of our noble Order. He is one that feels pride as a working Mason, and this great event will long be remembered in the annals of Freemasonry. Bro. Tims P.M. and Treasurer, in an eloquent speech, proposed the toast of the W.M. He said it was gratifying to see so young a Mason so energetic, and the brethren he had introduced were a credit to the Order (cheers). The W.M., in reply, said: It was the duty of every Master to use his utmost endeavours for the good of Freemasonry in general, and his own Lodge in particular, and he hoped, at the expiration of his year of office, he would have the approbation of every brother. He then, in proposing the toast of the W.M. elect, Bro. Michael, said, the respect exhibited by the brethren in their unanimous votes in his favour showed that the second Master of this prosperous Lodge was one who—by his working abilities, and the respect he is held in by the brethren—was well calculated to fill that important office, and he was sure the W.M. elect would select officers who would assist him in carrying out every detail to the satisfaction of the Lodge (cheers). Bro. Tubbs, in a suitable speech, returned thanks for the visitors, who were Bro. Tubbs 1309, W. Young 203, Omniston 262 and H. M. Levy P.M. 188. Bro. Read returned thanks for the toast of the newly initiated, in a manner that showed he was one in whom the Lodge would receive an acquisition. The W.M. said he could not have the honour of proposing the toast of the Past Masters, as the Lodge had been so young in existence, but they had an old Past Master among them who was a credit to the Craft as a Past Master, and did his duties as Secretary, having occupied a prominent position in Freemasonry in another Lodge. He was proud to couple the toast of P.M. and Secretary Bro. Tims. The toast was replied to in Bro. Tim's genial manner. Bro. Rose responded for the toast of the Treasurer. The W.M., in proposing the toast of the Junior Officers, remarked that he was proud of them, for their Masonic abilities, and he hoped that they would go up in rotation until they filled the chair he now had the honour to occupy. Bros. Williams J.W., Kingham J.D. and Scales W.S. severally responded. The Tyler's toast was given, and a very agreeable evening was passed, Bros. Clark, Stiles, Gilbert and Michael contributing to the harmony of the evening.

PHYSICAL STRENGTH is a quality held, and justly so, in high estimation. The consciousness of being in the possession of health and strength, in itself confers energy in every way, but how much is it abused, in this artificial life we lead? how many causes are at work to undermine the strongest constitution? Life in the present day, in this country, is too fast, we all live too fast, we travel too fast, we eat too fast, and, to carry out the idea, we work too fast also. The results of this are obvious to all observers, and need not be entered into further. Holloway's Pills and Ointment are the best remedies extant for restoring damaged nerve force.

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MONEY MARKET AND CITY NEWS.

THURSDAY.

As we drift into the Easter holidays Stock Exchange business becomes feebler and feebler, and the only movements of any moment, are transactions connected with the closing of speculative accounts. In the discount market, rates are more particularly affected by the condition of the foreign exchanges, and we have left off with an impression that money is becoming somewhat lighter. As we approach the end of the financial year, too, considerable interest naturally attaches to the revenue collections, and we may therefore, we hope, be excused for quoting from an able review in the *Times*, which says the prospect of the coming year will depend absolutely upon the policy that is followed in calculating the revenue of the succeeding twelve months. The estimates of expenditure are now all published, and they all show a slight and probably inevitable increase. The army, the navy and the civil services will all cost something more than last year. In round numbers we shall have to face an expenditure of 75 millions. The revenue of the current year will not exceed this sum, and there will therefore be no surplus unless we create it by discontinuing an elasticity not exhibited in our recent experience. We do not say it would be unwarrantable to calculate upon an increase of receipts in the coming twelvemonths, because we have not been able to rely upon it in the year now passing; the prospect is, on the whole, a little brighter now than it was twelve months back, although the official returns of imports and exports scarcely support this realisation; but we submit that the history of the expiring year demonstrates the impolicy of a Finance Minister denuding himself of his resources on the faith of increased receipts, which may not be realised. Had a bad harvest happened last autumn instead of the good harvest with which the world was blessed, Sir Stafford Northcote's balances would have presented a painful appearance. The answer of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to the deputations who asked him to remit the railway passenger duty, implied a confession that he had no surplus with which to reduce taxation and we hope the Government will resolutely refuse to diminish their income in the blind hope that it may come back to them. This policy is popular with those who run after democratic applause and they are not sparing of sophistries in support of it, but the time is inopportune to listen to their reckless suggestions. Up to Saturday last the Treasury receipts amounted to £73,060,000 made up of the following items; Customs, £18,737,000; Excise, £26,834,000; stamps, £10,264,000; land tax and house duty, £2,340,000; income tax, £4,217,000; Post Office, £5,620,000; telegraph service, £1,120,000; Crown lands, £385,000; miscellaneous, £3,563,000. The Budget estimate of revenue for the financial year, which terminates on the 31st instant is £74,425,000.

Business in the various departments being now virtually suspended for the next few days, it will not serve any useful purpose to go into further details, the usual summary of prices and other features of financial interest will therefore stand over till next week.

At the half-yearly meeting of the shareholders of the Caledonian Railway Company, held at Glasgow, on Wednesday, a dividend of 5½ per cent. was declared.

The cost of the English colonies for the year 1872-3, as given in an official return, was £1,817,471, which is less, by about £928,000, than the cost four years earlier. The diminution in the cost of regular troops is about £902,000.

At the annual meeting of the Britannia Fire Association, held on Wednesday, the premiums were stated to be £63,317, and the losses £35,988.

The following statement shows the receipts for traffic on the undermentioned railways for the past week, as compared with the corresponding week in 1874:—

Railway.	Miles open. 1875	Receipts. 1875 £	Receipts. 1874 £
Caledonian	737		
Glasgow and South Western	315½	15,359	14,346
Great Eastern	763	43,304	41,179
Great Northern	517	53,229	48,108
Great Western	1,525	94,006	97,576
Lancashire and Yorkshire	430	63,783	60,022
London and Brighton	376½	23,259	22,613
London, Chatham and Dover	153½	15,179	13,962
London and North Western	1,582½	161,986	158,245
London and South Western	—	32,384	29,550
London, Tilbury and Southend	45	—	—
Manchester and Sheffield	259½	—	—
Midland	944½	109,221	100,030
Metropolitan	8	9,380	8,329
„ „ District	8	5,647	4,131
„ „ St. John's Wood	1¼	472	430
North British	839	40,184	37,173
North Eastern	1,379	121,774	117,463
North London	12	6,888	6,869
North Staffordshire Railway	190	10,088	9,565
„ „ Canal	118	1,754	1,688
South Eastern	350	27,910	28,598

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Printed and Published for the Freemason's Chronicle Publishing Company Limited, by Brother WILLIAM WEST MORGAN, at 67 Barbican, E.C., Saturday, 27th March 1875.

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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. I.—No. 14. SATURDAY, 3rd APRIL 1875. PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

THE INSTALLATION OF H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES.

THE instructions as to the dress and regalia to be worn at the approaching ceremony of the Installation of the M.W.G.M., are at length issued, and will be found elsewhere in our columns. Evening dress (or black frock coat) with white gloves and full Masonic clothing, is to be the attire. Masters, Wardens and P.M.'s will, in addition, wear the collars and jewels of their respective offices, as likewise will Provincial Grand Officers the collars and jewels of the Lodges and offices respectively, by virtue of which they are members of Grand Lodge. No jewels or emblems are to be worn, save those appertaining to Craft or Royal Arch Masonry. Non-commissioned officers of the regular army in full dress uniform, will be held to be considered in evening dress, but volunteers are not to appear in uniform. Brethren are advised to take with them their Grand Lodge Certificates, so as to satisfy the Stewards of their personal identity. The ticket, which must be produced whenever required by the Stewards, is to be regarded in the light of an engagement by the holder, whose name is thereon, that he will conform to all the regulations, made by authority of the G.M. Seats will be determined by ballot; coats and hats must be taken into the hall, but placed under the seats, out of view. As to the ceremony itself, which is attracting so much attention, not only in the Masonic world, but generally, our readers perhaps are aware that it will take its place in the annals of our Order, as being not only one of the most interesting, but also as one of the most prominent events in its history. The first heir apparent to the British throne, who became a Mason, died before he had, to use a familiar phrase, made his mark in Masonry. The second, his grandson George, Prince of Wales, who became G.M. in 1790, was, let it be borne in mind, Grand Master in the days when our Order was divided by an unfortunate schism of long duration into Moderns and Ancients. The union of the Grand Lodges of these sections into our United Grand Lodge, was accomplished, when H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex held the supreme authority, and he became the first Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England. But His Royal Highness was far removed from any chance of succeeding to the throne, for the Princess Charlotte was then alive, and between her and him there were still several Royal Dukes nearer than he. But H.R.H. the Prince of Wales is the first heir apparent to the Crown of the United Kingdom, who has been chosen Grand Master of the Order in England. In one sense there is nothing very remarkable in this fact. But future generations of Freemasons will scarcely notice the circumstance, that between the Princes George and Albert Edward, no one else had borne the title which the heir to the Crown has been known by, since the birth of Edward, the Second of his name, in the Castle of Carnarvon. They will only remember that the latter was the first heir apparent, who was also G.M. of the United Grand Lodge of England. That his rule as G.M. may be both long and prosperous, both to himself and the Ancient Order he presides over, is the earnest prayer of every member!

THE SATURDAY REVIEW AND FREEMASONRY.

OUR contemporary, the *Saturday Review*, has been making merry at the expense of the Freemasons. The proceedings of the Great City Lodge, upon which we commented last week, have, it seems, afforded scope for the display of the usual vinegar and gall. Whether the critic was unequal to the occasion, or the subject was too commonplace for a superfine writer, we know not; but it is quite certain that the lucubrations of the *Saturday Review* are not characterised by the usual brilliancy which we generally look for in its pages. The writer opens fire by the time-worn remark that the rites of Masonry can embody no secrets of consequence, or they would long since have become the common property of the world. He insinuates that Masons are frivolous people, who are fond of medals and orders, who puff themselves up with empty importance by means of ridiculous titles, and whose chief business it is to meet and dine together in great good fellowship. If the latter were indeed the only purpose for which modern Masonry exists, it would scarcely deserve the sneers of our superfine critic. Dining out is an eminently English institution, and the cultivation of the social qualities in which, notwithstanding our love for good cheer, we are, as a nation, so deficient, should surely be regarded as a useful expenditure of time and talent. But it is scarcely necessary to assure the Saturday Reviewer that Masonry does not exist for merely convivial purposes, and that its disciples are, as a body, too sensible to care much for the paraphernalia of office. Our Reviewer knows all this as well as we do, but it is a maxim amongst critics of a certain school to seize upon the prominent features of an adversary's case and hold them up to popular ridicule. On precisely the same principle a Billingsgate or Dublin fishwife will roundly abuse her opponent for having a bald head, or a hook nose, or red hair; the lady means nothing by her high-sounding adjectives, and, to do the *Saturday Review* justice, we do not think that it means any harm to Masonry. The inexorable columns of the paper must be filled, and if a writer is hard up for a subject for ridicule, Masonry will doubtless serve as well as any other. There is indeed just this peculiarity about the Order, that its proceedings, or at all events such portions of them as can be made public, may readily be rendered ridiculous by an unscrupulous writer. Nothing is easier than to make free of a subject one does not understand, but when the wit lacks information he must not be angry if those who could instruct him should call him a fool for his pains.

Masonry in these days does not need an apologist, and we could well afford to permit the critic of the *Saturday Review* to pass unnoticed, were it not that such sneers as his, if unheeded by us, may be regarded by the public as incontrovertible truths. If we were to refuse to plead, it might be held that judgment had gone against us by default. We cannot indeed lift the veil which hides the secrets of Masonry from view. Were it possible for us to do so our critic might find that there is really something more than mere idle ceremonial in them. Possibly he might discover in the formula some remarkable "survivals" which would rather astonish him. It is not our business to prove that Masons are all eminently sensible men, who care nothing for the regalia of the Craft. Some few amongst us may think the colour of an apron trimming of importance, or the affix of honorary initials a desirable ornament to a name,

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just as in the outer world there are people who value the ribbon of an order of knighthood, or who think they are lifted head and shoulders above the common herd when our Gracious Sovereign confers upon them the rank of C.B. All this indeed is beside the real question, which is not whether some Masons are weak and vain, or whether the secrets of the Order are worth knowing, but whether Masonry really exists for any useful purpose. Here indeed we encounter a real difficulty. Our critic may be one of those hard-headed persons who do not believe in relieving the suffering and distressed. If, however, he is of opinion that systematic charity is a good thing, then we think he will need little persuasion to admit that the Masons are doing a good work. The sums expended every year by Grand Lodge alone in relieving cases of distress are very large, but nearly every Lodge has its benevolent fund, and no sick or distressed Mason of good character need ever seek parish relief. Something is always done to help a brother to meet the reverses of fortune. Any Mason who knows much of the working of the Order could point to numerous cases in his own locality, in which the brethren have thrown a plank to a sinking comrade. Many a small tradesman has met fate and his creditors with a smiling face, after a full confession of his difficulties to his Lodge. The abounding benefactions of Grand Lodge have made many a widow's heart sing for joy, and the orphan who eats the bread of Masonic charity, without a sense of degradation, has cause to rejoice that an Order exists which fosters ideas that are amongst the exploded fallacies of a certain school of political economists, but which will always hold sway over the hearts of men as long as the golden rule is regarded as an article of faith. Masonry, in truth, is a grand corporation, which exists for the purpose of spreading the principles of Benevolence and Charity. Some of the wisest and best of men have not disdained to proclaim themselves members of the Fraternity, and at this moment the brightest and best members of the Bench, the Bar, and the Church, are brothers. No man is a worse citizen for being a Mason, and we may say, with perfect truth, that many of our brethren, who, before they joined the Order, were not remarkable for benevolence, have had their charitable impulses quickened and strengthened by association with those who have made the practical morality of Christianity a corner-stone of the Craft.

We do not indeed object to a little harmless laughter over ceremonial which is Greek to the general public, but we should have thought that the practical work of Masonry is well enough known to writers who are supposed to keep a keen watch over the passing events of the day. To assert, as our contemporary does, that a Society, which has always numbered amongst its workers the most illustrious persons in the country, has no *raison d'être* for its existence, betrays woeful ignorance of facts which are the common property of the public. We have never, indeed, as a body made any undue parade of the "mysteries" of the Order, but the Saturday Reviewer seems to imagine that we have set ourselves up as the rivals in business of the old established shop for that article which has existed from time immemorial at Rome. We appreciate at its true value the unfortunate animosity which has been displayed towards Masonry in modern times by successive Popes, but that animosity we believe arises from a misconception of the scope and aims of the Order. Masonry has never attempted to touch upon the conflicting claims of any section of the Christian world, nor has it ever ventured to interfere with the due allegiance a brother owes to the religion which rules his conscience. Idle terror of Masonry, as a possible political weapon, has no doubt inspired the curses which have been thundered against us from the chair of St. Peter. In a recent issue we proved that these fears were absurd, but, although we do not hope to convert Pius IX., we confess that we should be glad to make a convert of our critic. He will find the Fraternity sound at core on many of the important questions which lie at the root of citizenship. He may learn, perhaps, that the Mason is not only a good fellow at table, but that he is a peaceful and loyal subject, a good father, and, whatever his creed, a religious man. We refer our readers to another column for the article which has given rise to these comments.

CHARITY STEWARDS AND CHARITY JEWELS.

LAST week "Regalia" raised, in these columns, an important question connected with the permission to wear Charity Jewels. The case, as stated by our worthy Brother, lies in a nutshell. This jewel was instituted by H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex, to be worn as a mark of distinction by those Craftsmen who have twice served the office of Steward to one or other of our Charities, and a bar or clasp is added for each subsequent Stewardship a thus decorated member may fill. But this distinction is granted without regard to the amount of contributions that may have been brought to the funds of a charity by the recipient's exertions, the bare fact that he has served two Stewardships entitling him to the honour. Now "Regalia" argues, there is a certain degree of unfairness in this. Usually, and very properly, he says—in effect, if not in words—the man who labours actively in the cause of charity expects no recompense. Virtue, in this, as in other cases, is its own reward. But in our Order we have a decoration specially awardable to those who devote themselves to, or undertake this particular kind of duty, and while some among them are very active and very successful, others are sometimes inactive, and of no great service to the cause. Why should the inactive and the active be similarly rewarded? We all covet permission to wear so honourable a distinction, but is it quite fair that one Brother should earn it, in a certain sense, by payment, while another earns it by hard work? There is, we admit, some force in "Regalia's" suggestions. Yet we see, also, many difficulties in the way of a reform that shall give general satisfaction. We do not say such a reform is impracticable. But while a general rule occasionally gives rise to some amount of dissatisfaction, the question of comparative merit is nearly sure to entail bitter jealousies among all classes, and continually. Whether we regard the aggregate of a Steward's list, or the number of contributors to it, or whether we compare the personal liberality of one with the known energy of another, which way soever, in fact, we turn, in our endeavours after reform, we shall still find ourselves met by objections innumerable, and all, more or less, tenable. Suppose, for instance, we try to estimate the relative merits of two Stewards by the amount they are severally the means of adding to the funds of a Charity. We shall, perhaps, encounter some such difficulty as this. A, in his two Stewardships, collects fifty guineas the first time, and sixty guineas the second; but his list, in the first instance, is made up by the contributions of ten persons, while on the second occasion thirteen contribute to it. B, in his two Stewardships, collects first twenty-five guineas, and then twenty guineas; forty persons assisting him in his first year, and thirty-six in his second. Thus A, from the narrow field of twenty-three, obtains one hundred and ten guineas in his two years of office, B only forty-five guineas from a field of seventy-six. Shall we say that either A with the larger result, but far narrower field, or B with the larger field but smaller result, is not worthy of the decoration. Both have done good service, but one has canvassed more, the other benefits—in a pecuniary sense—the cause of the Charity more. Again, if we take into account the number of those who contribute to the lists, let us imagine that C and D, in their two Stewardships obtain exactly the same amounts, viz., forty guineas in their first, and forty-five guineas in their second, or together eighty-five guineas each. C's eighty-five guineas, however, represent the aggregate of the contributions of eighty-five persons, while D's were the joint contributions of one hundred and eleven. Both canvassed about the same number of individuals, but C met with some thirty rebuffs, while D encountered only perhaps seven or eight. E again, is prepared, or say, he is solicited to become a Steward on two occasions. He is a man of rank in his Lodge, possesses, moreover, ample means, but his engagements prevent him making any great personal exertion. So, as "Regalia" suggests, in addition to his Steward's fees, he heads his list with the required donation of ten guineas. Can we argue, with any show of reason, that E is not entitled to the honour of a Jewel? These are only a few of the cases that might be brought forward, in order to show the difficulties which any measure of reform will be sure to meet with, and how necessary it is to be cautious, so as to avoid offence to any among the numerous classes of brethren who take upon themselves the duties of Stewardship, but the subject, we repeat, is a proper one to discuss. At the same time,

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we confess that, for ourselves, we cannot offer any well matured plan that will meet the not unreasonable objections of "Regalia." True, it has occurred to us on the spur of the moment that a similar practice might be adopted in bestowing this decoration as is followed in the army, in decorating those who have taken part in a campaign for which a medal and clasps are awarded. In this case the medal is given to all who served with the army up to a certain date, but a clasp or clasps are given only to the officers and men actually present in one or more battles. Thus all who joined our army in the Crimea up to a certain date received the Crimean medal, but only those received the clasps, severally added for Alma, Balaclava, Inkermann, Sebastopol, who were present in those engagements. Similarly, permission to wear the jewel might be granted to every brother serving the office of Steward, while a clasp would indicate that he had collected for one of our Charities the sum (say) one hundred guineas or more. The addition of a second clasp would show that he had collected twice that sum, and so on with each additional clasp. There are perhaps objections even to this slight modification of the present system. It occurred to us only at the moment of writing, and we have not, therefore, had time to give it much consideration. Crude as it is, however, we offer it, simply in order to show our interest in the subject matter of "Regalia's" letter. It only remains to add that our columns will be at the disposal of any other Brethren who may be anxious to express their views. The subject is worth "ventilating," if only in order to ascertain a means by which any heart-burnings at present existing may be removed.

We need not touch upon the variations from the existing regulations as to the eligibility of a brother to wear this jewel. These are sufficiently explained in a letter we publish from Bro. Binckes. We may add, however, our expression of approval of the very excellent rule, which now awaits confirmation at the courts of the Girls' and Boys' Schools, to be held on the 10th and 12th instant respectively. This, as Bro. Binckes suggests, will probably "be a stimulus to activity, and, at the same time, be regarded as *something* in the shape of a reward for labour."

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE INSTALLATION OF THE PRINCE OF WALES.

Brethren to appear in evening dress (or black frock coat), white gloves and full Masonic Craft clothing.

Masters, Wardens, and Past Masters must, in addition, wear the collars and jewels of their respective offices.

Provincial Grand Officers, the collars and jewels of the Lodges and Offices respectively, in right of which they attend as Members of Grand Lodge.

Non-commissioned Officers of the regular service in full dress uniform will be considered in evening dress. Volunteers must not appear in uniform.

No jewels or emblems to be worn but those appertaining to Craft or Royal Arch Masonry.

Brethren are recommended to bring their Grand Lodge certificates, as they cannot be admitted unless the Stewards in charge of the entrance are satisfied of their identity.

Tickets are to be produced for inspection whenever required by the Stewards on duty.

The places in the hall have been determined by ballot.

A seat is provided for every brother to whom a ticket has been issued. Brethren are, therefore, expected to proceed quietly to the places assigned to them.

Brethren bringing coats and hats must take them into the Hall, and place them under their seats, out of view.

The use of this ticket is an engagement by the brother named thereon to conform to all the regulations made by authority of the Grand Master.

By command of the M.W. Grand Master,

JOHN HERVEY, G.S.

FIRST ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF THE PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF LANARKSHIRE AT ST. MARK'S HALL, GLASGOW.

On Wednesday, the 31st ult., a festival, got up by all the First Principals in the province, was held in St. Mark's Hall, under the presidency of Companion F. A. Barrow, the Provincial Grand Superintendent of Lanarkshire, who was supported on his right by Companions Docket P.Z. of 73, J. Fraser P.G.S.N. and J. Halfour Scribe E. of 73, P.G.P.S., and on his left by W. Smith P.G.H., J. Miller Z. 50, J. Duthie Z. 67, and G. W. Wheeler Z. of 73. The Croupiers were Companions A. McTaggart M.A. P.G. Scribe E, and T. Halket Z. of 113 P.G. Treasurer. Full justice having been done to the very excellent and abundant meal provided by Companion S. M'Phee, Companion Barrow gave a brief but terse opening address, comparing the three Craft degrees to a school, in which every man should be taught the plain duties of life, but the Royal Arch Degree was the College, wherein all the higher branches of knowledge that tend to adorn and beautify the mind, are taught those that fit us for the highest stations in society, in fact he considered it the head of universal Masonry; there were higher degrees but they were merely what are called the Christian orders, and, though excellent in themselves, from their demanding a basis in Christianity as a requisite to admission, they cannot be considered so high as the Royal Arch. He believed the present very successful meeting was to be the means of still further spreading the Order. He then read letters of regret for non-attendance from several companions, and proposed the first toast, "The Queen and the Craft," followed by "The Prince of Wales and the other members of the Royal Family," "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers," and "The Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland," paying some well-merited compliments to that body, and regretting that they had not been able to send a deputation to this meeting, as the Grand Scribe E stated in reply that he had four other invitations for that day. Comp. W. Smith then proposed "The other Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapters." He was proud to be able to recognise the work that was being done by Companions of this degree, and that they, as Masons of Scotland, might be now the means of taking a leaf out, he did not mean with regard to working but with regard to their Benevolent Fund. As a Mason of some years standing, and one who formerly took an active part in this City, he knew that a great advance had been made in this direction, but there was still room for improvement, though we were about on a level with France and some of the Continental Chapters, and even with Ireland, but America was ahead of us, and in England the magnificent benevolent institutions quite put us to the blush, and concluded by saying that he was proud to propose the other Grand Bodies (cheers). Comp. R. Wylie said the toast with which he had been entrusted, might be considered as the toast of the evening, and he was glad that it would not require many words from him to commend it to their notice. It was "the Provincial Royal Arch Chapter for Lanarkshire," with which he coupled the name of Comp. Barrow, remarking that the Grand Chapter could not have made a wiser selection than they had done, by placing Comp. Barrow at their head. This was not flattery, but the simple truth (cheers). Comp. Barrow said he was proud to think that his efforts to further the cause of Arch Masonry in the provinces should have met with such a hearty recognition. He was not a talker, but a worker, and this would stimulate him to fresh work. It was fifteen years since there had been an united meeting in the province like this. As most of them knew, when Dr. Walker Arnott resigned the position of Provincial Grand Superintendent, no one was appointed in his place for several years. Since he had received his commission, with the assistance of the Prov. Grand Office bearers and the support of the principals of the Chapters, he had been enabled to raise the spirit of Arch Masons, and with their aid it would yet take a still higher stand. Comp. J. Balfour—in proposing the next toast, "Daughter Chapters,"—called on all the Principals to reply on behalf of their own Chapters, and in the course of his remarks recommended a closer intercourse between the Chapters of the province. Comp. Miller, Z 50, thought some of the apathy which had been spoken of arose from the fact that too often the first Principals were chosen from those who, like himself, had filled the chair of Craft Lodges in former years, and then felt too old to learn a new and long ritual. Comp. Duthie, Z 67, had not the same fault to find, but his difficulty was to get proper officers to assist in the work. Comp. Wheeler, Z 73, was proud to say he had no fault to find with his officers, they were generally in their places. He would recommend a Chapter of Instruction be got up by all the Principals, that they might not only learn the work, but all work alike, and that they should not retain a first Principal so long in his chair. He had known in that province two Companions, one who had filled the chair nine, and the other ten years; they complained they could not get sojourners to learn the parts; was it any wonder, when they considered that he was only a very subordinate officer in rank, while his work was nearly as much as that of 1st Principal, if he saw there was no chance of his ever rising to fill the chair? Comp. J. Brodie Z. 79 said, after long pending sleep their Chapter had only just been resuscitated, and he must say it was entirely owing to the kindness of the members of other Chapters that he had been able to work at all. Some of the other Principals having replied, the next toast, "The other Orders of Masonry" was proposed by Croupier A. McTaggart, who alluded to the dispute respecting the antiquity of Masonry. Comp. W. Philips, in an effective speech, gave "The Visiting Companions." Comp. J. Duthie Z. 67, then proposed "The Benevolent Institutions." J. Halket Croupier, Provincial Grand Treasurer, replied that the Grand Chapter had voted £30 in a recent case of great distress, and then proposed "The Press," after which Companion Wheeler, in a humourous speech, proposed "The Ladies," which was followed by the concluding remarks of the Chairman.

Votes of thanks were then passed to Companion M'Phee, the purveyor to the Committee; to Comps. R. Fraser, J. Fraser, J. Miller and W. Barr, to whom the solos of the evening had been entrusted, and to the Chairman.

The singing of "Old Lang Syne" brought this highly successful meeting to a close.

CHINESE CARVING.

FOR Sale, an elaborately carved Set of Ivory Chessmen. The Kings stand 8¼ inches high, the other pieces in proportion. Knights and Pawns on horseback, all mounted on stands, with concentric balls. Can be seen, and full particulars obtained, on application to W. W. Morgan, 67 Barbican.—*Adv.*

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FREEMASONRY IN THE CITY.

From the "Saturday Review."

IT is a common opinion of those who are not Freemasons that if there were anything in Freemasonry it would have been found out long ago. We may go with the holders of this opinion to this extent, that if you do not want to be found out the best way is to have no secret. It is, however, impressive to ordinary minds to talk mysteriously where no mystery exists; and we cannot help remarking that, if Mr. Disraeli is not a Freemason, the Prince of Wales, for the advantage not only of the Order, but of society in general, should insist on making him one. He would be far away the best speaker at a Masonic dinner that ever came out, and would discourse on the antagonism between Popery and Freemasonry with that vague eloquence which is his peculiar gift.

An "emergency meeting," or, in other words, a dinner of the Great City Lodge of Freemasons, was held on Saturday last, at the City Terminus Hotel, to celebrate the facts that the Lord Mayor is a member of this Lodge and a Past Master of the Order, that the Prince of Wales is Grand Master of the Order, and that Masonry is generally looking up. A speaker, who described himself as "father of the Grand Officers of England," assured the meeting that Masonry was making great strides, and he added a caution, which strikes us as hardly suitable to the Great City Lodge, that in all their members quality, and not quantity, should be considered. We would desire to speak with respect of the "quality" of a Lord Mayor, remarking, at the same time, that the "quantity" of him is likely to be more conspicuous. The "Great City Lodge" probably deserves its name by the greatness of its individual members as well as by their number and importance. The same speaker was less intelligible when he warned his hearers against seeking Masonry for "private purposes." The assumption that the Order exists for any purpose at all except good fellowship is perhaps difficult for outsiders to realize. Men appear to become Masons because they like it, and if you do a thing to please yourself you may be said, without any unpleasant imputation, to do it for a private purpose. Almost any kind of association may be useful to its members. A man becomes, when he is young, a member of the Grocers' or Fishmongers' Company; and perhaps, when he is middle-aged or old, he rises to be a governor, sits at well-furnished dining-tables, and helps to dispose of valuable patronage. A lawyer or man of business may do himself some good and no harm by becoming a "Grocer" or "a Fishmonger," and in the same way it may be useful to become a "Mason." To impute or disclaim "private purposes" in such an act seems to us superfluous. Freemasons meet and dine together, and good dinners promote good feeling, and they may, if it so pleases them, describe themselves as carrying out their "guiding principle" of "peace on earth" and "goodwill amongst men," by holding an "emergency meeting" for dinner and other purposes at the City Terminus Hotel. This style was invented by the author of the lines:—

> The naked every day he clad
> When he put on his clothes.

Perhaps, however, we come as near to the "guiding principle" of Freemasonry in this way as in any other. It means good dinners, and good dinners mean whatever after-dinner speakers say they mean. If Mr. Disraeli were a Freemason, he would make a speech which nobody could understand, and which everybody would feel to be grand, solemn, mysterious, and suggestive of obscure dangers to the human race, which could only be averted by the potent organization to which the speaker had the happiness to belong. Vague talk about "the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man," together with "purple," titles, and an appeal to what may be called the "clubable" instinct of man, make up Freemasonry as seen from the outside. The "purple" is rivalled or burlesqued by the "regalia" of the Good Templars, and this and several other associations have indulged in the cheap pleasure of equally sonorous titles. If a retail tradesman finds satisfaction in being called a "W.P.M.," he is not more silly than certain persons of both education and position who have created themselves Knights of the Orders of the Temple and St. John. The love of these distinctions pervades all classes of Englishmen and Americans, and among them the "purple" of Freemasonry is like the "purple" of the Roman Emperors beside the robes of European Kings. The antiquity and utility of the Order are unquestionable. Masons in the middle ages were necessarily a wandering Craft. They passed from place to place in quest of work, and where they came they needed means to discover themselves to their brethren, and claim their hospitality and help. In the middle ages writing was a rarity, and it was always liable to be forged, and hence the utility of some sign of membership known only to the brethren. This account of the Order and its use could be embellished by poetical, or religious, or technical language to any desired extent, to the satisfaction of all Masons, and without harm to anybody else. The antipathy of the Pope to the Order may be sufficiently explained on the principle that two of a trade never agree. The genuine old-established shop for mysteries is kept by the successor of St. Peter, and all other wares claiming to be of the same kind are spurious. But, notwithstanding the Pope's hostility, it appears that the Freemasons have established a Lodge in Rome, and this fact is regarded as almost equally important with the existence of a Lord Mayor of London, who is a member of a Lodge and a P.M. Indeed, it seems to be anticipated that with the speedy growth of civilisation and enlightenment "emergency meetings," followed by dinners, will be held in Rome. "We shall, I trust," says a speaker, "soon hear of meetings like this, where the chief civic dignitaries of Rome will meet their brethren under the banner of a Great City Lodge." We may hope that when "the chief civic dignitaries of Rome" become Freemasons, their quantity as well as quality will be acceptable to their English brethren. Perhaps by that time turtle-soup and punch will be available upon "emergency" at Rome, and no modern representative of the "lean and hungry" Cassius will then be eligible for "purple."

The present year is likely to be, in a Masonic point of view, eventful. The Prince of Wales will be installed as Grand Master in a large and noble Hall, which has been, indeed, erected for other purposes, but will now be sanctified and made honourable by the ceremony. Solomon, as we all know, was a Freemason, but it is thought that Solomon, in all his glory, would have been nothing to the installation of the Prince of Wales. The Lord Mayor acknowledges that he has been negligent of his own Masonic duties, and perhaps he and others may have been stimulated to perform those duties zealously by the fact of the Prince of Wales being Grand Master. The object of the Prince of Wales, and of Masons generally, is, according to the Lord Mayor, to insist that "light shall prevail," whereas the Pope goes in for darkness. A society which has the Prince of Wales for its leader and the Pope for its enemy has a double claim on the sympathy of Englishmen, and if it were possible for Englishwomen to become Freemasons we are sure that under such interesting circumstances they would do so. We believe that there never was a female Freemason, or at least only one, whose picture sometimes serves as village alehouses as the sign of the "Quiet Woman." But although Englishwomen cannot love a society of men which keeps or professes to keep a secret from them, they cannot hate that which the Pope condemns and the Prince of Wales supports. We must own indeed that the desire of the Grand Master that light shall prevail still leaves in some obscurity the principles of the Craft. A speaker at the dinner assured his hearers that these principles were made manifest by the working of the Great City Lodge. But this, again, is vague and intangible. To say that the object of Freemasons is that "everything that is good, graceful, honourable, and beneficial, shall stand upward and be put forward," is merely to say that Freemasons are good Christians and good citizens, which we could readily believe without earnest and reiterated assertions.

It is well-known that the builders of the Tower of Babel were the first, or among the first, Freemasons, and King Solomon was one of the most distinguished members of the Order. The institution has been continued, at least in imagination, down from these remote times in uninterrupted succession to the present day. It is, indeed, objected that this unbroken tradition, if it existed, must have kept alive and handed down much information that has, on the contrary, been utterly lost. But this objection would not be likely to prevail after dinner. It is at any rate as easy to believe that Freemasonry existed under Solomon as to find the origin of chivalry in the Trojan war. Indeed, the Freemasonry of the middle ages, in which bishops were associated, resembled the orders of knighthood of which the same ages were prolific. The connexion between the practical Masonry which built cathedrals, and the speculative Masonry which forms lodges, is no doubt perceived by the same discerning eyes which can trace the line of official succession from King Solomon to the Prince of Wales. To less acute observation it would appear, however, that Freemasonry declined and almost perished before the Reformation, and only revived in England about the time of the Civil War. Whether it revived or survived, it had wholly lost any practical character at the beginning of the eighteenth century; but from that time onwards, dukes, princes, and other distinguished persons have held its offices in England, and it spread from this country to Continental Europe, where it encountered opposition and persecution, which were not unnaturally provoked by the real or affected mystery of its proceedings. The charge against Freemasonry that it was an organized conspiracy against religion and government is not likely to have been at any time or place well founded. But it is not wonderful that such a charge was made. The probability is that there neither was nor is anything that is good or bad to conceal; that Freemasonry is only an innocent mystification, and that its symbols and instructions, whatever meaning or purpose they may originally have had, are now merely forms retained by the brethren of "free and accepted Masons" for the purpose of conferring peculiar importance on harmless social meetings. When cigars are kindled towards the close of a Masonic dinner, members may assert, and outsiders would be uncivil if they denied, that the great principle "that light shall prevail" is being supported.

M.W. Bro. J. G. Fleming has been elected Grand Master of Masons in Louisiana, and Bro. J. C. Batchelder, M.D., Grand Secretary.

The Grand R.A. Chapter of Louisiana has elected M.E. Comp. S. J. Powell as Grand High Priest, and M.E. Comp. J. C. Batchelder, M.D., Grand Secretary.

Ill. Comp. W. R. Whitaker has been chosen M.P. Grand Master of the Grand Council, R. and S.M., of Louisiana, and Comp. Gustavus Sontag, Grand Recorder.

M.W. Bro. N. Van Slyck, Grand Master of Rhode Island, has been invited by the City Commissioners of Providence to lay the corner stone of the New City Hall of that city. The ceremony will take place either in May or June next.

The annual assembly of the Grand Council of Royal, Super-excellent, and select Masters of Pennsylvania, was held in the City of Harrisburg, on Wednesday evening, 17th February 1875, when the following officers were elected to serve for the ensuing year: Comp. Christian F. Knapp, of Bloomsburg, M.P. Grand Master, Comp. Geter C. Shidle, of Pittsburgh, R.P.D. Grand Master, Comp. M. Richards Muckle, of Philadelphia, R.P.I. Grand Master, Comp. Wm. J. Fordney, of Lancaster, R.P. Grand P.C. of W., Comp. James Brown, of Pittsburgh, R.P. Grand Treasurer, Comp. Chas. E. Meyer, of Philadelphia, R.P. Grand Recorder. The next meeting of the Grand Council will be held at Lancaster, on the 3rd Wednesday in February 1876.—*New York Courier.*

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CORRESPONDENCE.

All Letters must bear the name and address of the Writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.

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CHARITY STEWARDS AND CHARITY JEWELS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—No one can, by any possibility, be more anxious than myself to bear willing and grateful testimony to the value of the services rendered to the Masonic Institutions by brethren who undertake the arduous and responsible duties of Stewards at the Anniversary Festivals. It is the intensity of this feeling which induces me to reply to the letter under the above heading, in your last number, signed "Regalia."

From a tolerably long experience I can adequately appreciate both the "commendable zeal," by which, as a rule, the Stewards are actuated, as well as the "sacrifice of personal ease and convenience," absolutely necessary for a due performance of the duties involved in the acceptance of a Stewardship. Further, I would give credence to no man who, with any knowledge of humanity, would dissent from your correspondent's axiom, "the expressed approbation of our fellow beings is exceedingly gratifying." As an illustration of this is cited the "Honourable testimonial of Masonic Charity and Benevolence, instituted by H.R.H. Augustus Frederick Duke of Sussex M.W. Grand Master,"—commonly known as "The Charity Jewel"—"to be worn as a mark of distinction" (pursues "Regalia") "by those who have served at least two Stewardships to *either of* the Charities." Then follows the pertinent question, which, by the way, may be asked over and over again with reference to distinctions conferred outside, as well as within Freemasonry:—"Are those privileges bestowed equitably upon the deserving, or indiscriminately distributed?" My object in asking permission for space for a reply to your correspondent, is not to discuss this much vexed question of merit, but to point out that the premises upon which "Regalia" bases his complaints are not sound, and therefore, that many of his arguments cannot be sustained, *e.g.*:—

1. The Charity Jewel is not *conferred* upon a Brother who serves certain Stewardships, and, therefore, there cannot be a question between the deserving and the undeserving.

2. A Brother observing the stipulated conditions attached to the institution of the "Honourable Testimonial, &c.," has the privilege of wearing the Jewel by paying for it out of his own resources.

3. The stipulated conditions (not as at the date of institution, but now in force) are, the service of the Stewardship for each of two of the three institutions, and not "twice *for either* institution," qualifying, at the same time, for not less than a Life Governor, by a donation of ten guineas (or ten pounds in the case of the Benevolent Institution), with the right to add a bar for the Stewardship for the third Institution, or for a subsequent Stewardship for either of the two Institutions first served.

For these regulations the governing bodies of our three Institutions are in no way responsible. They are ordered to be observed by Grand Lodge, and the executives have only to see that they are complied with.

Recognising, however, the varying merits or deserts of brethren acting as Stewards, and desirous to reward those who exert themselves in the discharge of their onerous duties, the following rule has been adopted by special courts of the Boys' and Girls' Schools, which await confirmation at the respective courts on the 10th and 12th of April, viz.:—"Every Steward making a donation, at an anniversary festival, if not less than ten guineas, shall be entitled to additional votes at each election of girls/boys, as follows: For the first stewardship, one additional vote; for each subsequent stewardship, with a similar donation, two additional votes, with the following new law:—Every Steward, at the anniversary festival, who shall procure donations or subscriptions to the extent of not less than fifty guineas, in addition to his personal donation, shall receive one additional vote at each election of girls/boys, and a further extra vote for every additional sum of not less than fifty guineas." This, it is hoped, will be a stimulus to activity, and, at the same time, be regarded as *something* in the shape of a reward for labour.

The facts I have stated with regard to the conditions attached to the Charity Jewel, will, I think, answer much of the remaining portion of your correspondent's letter. There is one point, however, to which he gives prominence, and that is—the practice, hitherto prevailing, more or less often, of the Secretary of an Institution assisting the weak list of a Steward by placing upon it donations paid direct to the office, without instructions as to their destination. Candidly, I admit, having regard to the exertions of Stewards as a competitive body, the practice is indefensible. Unquestionably credit is obtained for work not done, and a brother who has never asked for a single donation, may, by the means referred to, be placed in a position of proud pre-eminence as compared with a fellow Steward who has laboured strenuously, but without corresponding results.

Let me assure you that it is with no wish to render myself unduly prominent that I have taken the opportunity of replying to your correspondent's letter. Without the slightest knowledge of who he may be, I recognise in him one thoroughly imbued with real energy and conscientiousness. Let him bear in mind the wonderful difference between our Charitable Anniversaries now and fifteen years ago; let him understand the difficulties we have to contend with, into the particulars of which I do not care now to enter; let him believe in the earnest desire, on the part of the executive of each Institution, to give not only every credit, but all possible reward, to the brethren who, year by year, so cheerfully come forward to maintain the prestige of "Masonic Charity;" and let him, while—not without justification, perhaps—criticising both the mode and the modicum of reward, cheer himself with two considerations, the one (almost using his own words), the gratification derived from well-doing, the other, "Everything comes to him who waits."

On the important question raised by your correspondent, there is much more to be said, but this letter has reached its limit.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

FREDERICK BINCKES,

Secretary, Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

London, 29th March 1875.

THE ENSUING ELECTIONS TO THE BOYS' AND GIRLS' SCHOOLS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR,—I have seen, in last week's number of your contemporary, the *Freemason*, a letter from Bro. Hughan, in which he analyses the claims of the seventy-nine candidates—thirty-one girls and forty-eight boys—at the approaching elections, to fill the twenty-one vacancies—thirteen girls and eight boys—in the Royal Masonic Institutions for Boys and Girls. Now I am aware Bro. Hughan is a most energetic and one of the most active-minded members of our Order. What he says, therefore, is—apart from all ordinary considerations of courtesy—not lightly to be regarded. Yet, I submit, with due respect for his eminence as a Craftsman, that the principle on which he has conducted his analysis is most emphatically wrong, while the conclusion he apparently suggests is most unfortunate.

I will first give the substance of his letter, premising that I accept his figures unreservedly.

He gives his readers to understand that the result of his scrutiny of the voting papers is to the following effect. Of the thirty-one girl candidates, one has applied twice before, two once, eighteen apply now for the first time. Twenty-six are fatherless, one motherless, two parentless, two have parents still living. The average period for which the fathers subscribed to Grand Lodge (or their Lodge) is nine years, but one had been a member for one year only, one for not three years, seventeen for less than nine years. The subscriptions of "the average nine years' members with their initiation fees would," he reckons, "cover the cost of the maintenance of the candidates *if all were elected* for about *six months*." Again two only of the fathers subscribed to the Masonic Charities, and "four are said to have subscribed *through their Lodges*, whatever that may mean." A similar scrutiny in respect of the forty-eight boy candidates has this result:—1st application twenty, 2nd eleven, 3rd ten, 4th two, 5th two, 7th two, 8th one. Fatherless forty, parentless six, two have their parents still living. The fathers of forty-five subscribed, on an average, during eight and a half years, but only six contributed to our charities. Their average contributions, together with their initiation fees, would suffice to maintain the forty-eight candidates for about four months. Thus, "out of seventy-nine candidates for twenty-one vacancies in the Royal Masonic Institutions for girls and boys, the fathers of only eight of the children subscribed to either of the Masonic Charities during their lifetime, or presumed prosperity, and their average subscriptions and fees together, contributed to their Lodges for all purposes, would scarcely pay for the maintenance of one of each of their children at either of the institutions for six months."

Now, I maintain the principle of this scrutiny is erroneous, while the inference Bro. Hughan, I presume, would have us draw—namely, that those candidates are the most eligible, whose fathers contributed to our charities, is most unfortunate. Nay more, it is illogical and directly at variance with all past experience. Let me try to demonstrate these propositions.

Assuming, of course, the equal ability to contribute to our charities of the fathers of all these 79 candidates, then, *ceteris paribus*, I admit Bro. Hughan is right. But I will ask him or any man, Is this likely, in the case of so considerable a number of candidates, whom the mere accident of a common adversity has brought together into this particular class of applicants for relief? Shall we find even two cases of this, or any other set of candidates, more or fewer, in which the grounds of the applications are the same or even similar? By which I understand—whose fathers, being of equal rank socially, having equal means, and only equal claims upon those means, were thus able to contribute equally to our institutions. Shall we not rather find something like the following among the fathers of those candidates? And first, as to means. A few perhaps were rich enough to become life governors or life subscribers, or occasionally annual subscribers, to one or more of our charities. A still greater number were able to contribute an occasional half-guinea or five shillings, which helped to swell the stewards' lists at the annual festivals. Of the rest, the majority were unable, while a narrow margin—writing of Masons, I suppose it to be a narrow one—were unwilling to contribute. But assuming them to be equal in respect of means, I pass next to the question of position. We shall find some were gentlemen, some professional men, some commercial men, some wholesale and some retail tradesmen, some clerks, while a few perhaps belonged to the mechanic class. Now, it is beyond dispute that the demands on a gentleman's purse are greater than on a tradesman's, on a tradesman's greater than on a mechanic's. What is a necessary to a gentleman, is a luxury to a trader; what a necessary to a trader, is a luxury to the mechanic. Take, for instance, the case of two men, one an officer in the army, the other a tradesman, and each possessing an income of £500 per annum. The former will be pinched for means, while the latter is comparatively

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well-to-do. Or, I will take a small shopkeeper clearing £200 per annum of profits, and a master workman earning £4 per week wages. The latter is decidedly the better off of the two. Again, when an officer dies, his appointment dies with him. When an artist dies, the brain that conceived, and the hand that fashioned the saleable statue or picture are at rest. When the mechanic dies, the implements of his art and the remembrance of his skill alone remain. But the trader leaves behind money value in the shape of stock, and the good will of his business. Here, then, are elements of inequality, which it were folly to ignore. But assuming equality of means and position, we must still consider other circumstances. Some had large, some small families. Some had, some had not, other relatives dependent on them for support. In some families sickness prevailed largely, in others it was rarely, if ever, present. In some cases these and like conditions may have come together, in others separately. Lastly, some may have been good Masons, as they were good men, others indifferent Masons, as they were held indifferently in public estimation as men. And having analysed the claims of these seventy-nine candidates, with a due regard to each of these several conditions, and having found in each case, as I think we shall find, such inequalities as I have described, it still remains for us to make one final analysis, in order to ascertain the relative merits of the several candidates. We must put all these grounds of consideration together, and then only shall we truly know which of the candidates are most deserving of your support and patronage. And how puzzled we shall be! We shall find perhaps that A was a good Mason and charitable, but he had a small family. B, an equally good Mason, was unable to give, for his family was numerous. C was a gentleman with a small family, but the claims on his purse were heavy. D had means, but likewise a sick wife, and one or two brothers to help forward in life. E, who was on the road to fortune, died prematurely. And so on, through the category. My algebra, I fancy, is somewhat rusty, but I think the permutations and combinations of all the *pros* and *cons*, that might be urged in connection with these seventy-nine candidates, would prove very formidable.

Bro. Hughan, I fear, has fallen—unwittingly, no doubt—into the very common error of generalising. He attempts to apply one uniform test to all cases alike, quite forgetting that the merits of the candidates are, perhaps, as various as the candidates themselves are numerous. Nor has he made any allowance for another point not altogether unworthy of consideration. Though Masons, as such, may exercise a firmer control over their likes and dislikes, they cannot wholly rid themselves of them. Bro. Jones will support the *protégé* of Bro. Brown rather than of Bro. Robinson. He knows well enough that neither of his worthy brethren would solicit support for an undeserving object, but he is associated in business with Bro. Jones, or was at school or college with him. It is the misfortune of those who seek to establish one law which shall be generally applicable to all, to find—I was going to say any number of—cases which positively refuse to be generalised. Perhaps some one may say, "Pity 'tis, 'tis true," yet true it is undoubtedly.

One further remark I venture to offer. Among the candidates for the Girls' School are four whose fathers "are said to have subscribed *through their Lodges*, whatever that may mean." Bro. Hughan calls this "an equivocal form of contribution." Permit me to suggest a solution of the riddle. These brethren possibly were able to afford only such small subscriptions as would not entitle them to rank with annual subscribers. Their contributions found their way into the coffers of the institution for which they were intended, through the stewards who may have represented their Lodges at the annual festival or festivals. Or, perhaps, the Lodges of which they were subscribing members, held one or more Life Governorships, the money for which was provided out of the corporate funds. The members of a Lodge so subscribing, would have each an equal share with his fellows in this or other Life Governorships, and might therefore be said "to have subscribed *through their Lodges*." I can solve other people's propositions no more than Bro. Hughan. I only suggest one or other of these solutions.

I think I have shown the principle of Bro. Hughan's scrutiny is wrong. I am certain it would be most unfortunate if we gave or withheld our support in the case of a particular candidate on the sole ground that his or her father had or had not contributed to our "charities" during his "lifetime, or presumed prosperity." It is illogical on the not unnatural presumption, that those who have been able to bestow charity on others, have, or ought to have been able to bestow something on their own families, who, therefore, stand less in need of assistance.

I fear I am trespassing too largely on your valuable space, but the issue raised is an important one, and I hope this will be deemed some excuse for the length of my letter.

Fraternally yours, Q.

THE CHEVALIER RAMSAY AND FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR,—In your issue of the 13th inst., Bro. Buchan, I perceive, asks certain questions as to the connection of the Chevalier Ramsay with Freemasonry, and also, whether any evidence thereon exists among the archives of the Grand Lodge of England. The latter point I can offer no opinion upon, but in my occasional reading of Masonic literature, I have found two or three passages which may be of interest to Bro. Buchan, if he be not, at least, already familiar with them. The first I have extracted from Thory's *Acta Latomorum* or *Chronologie d l'Histoire de la Franche-Maçonnerie Française et Etrangère*, and is to this effect:—

"Cette année, le chevalier baronet écossais *Ramsay* jette, à Londres, les fondemens d'une Maçonnerie nouvelle qu'il faisait descendre des croisades, et dont il attribuait l'invention à *Godefroi de Bouillon*. Il prétendait que la Loge de St. André, à Edimbourg, était le chef-lieu du véritable Ordre des Franc-Maçons, lesquels étaient les descendans des chevaliers des croisades. Il conférait trois grades, l'Ecossais, le Novice, et le Chevalier du Temple. *Ramsay* preche une réforme basée sur sa découverte; on rejette cette doctrine."

The date assigned to this in 1728.

The second is from a foot-note at p. 205 of Findel's *History of Freemasonry*.

"It has been stated, more than once, that he was in London in 1728, to lay the foundation of this new Masonic system, but Kloss contradicts this; he was only once in England, and that in 1730, to receive the degree of Doctor of Law.

I have noticed references in other works, but none seem to afford anything conclusive. For my own part, I should hardly like to accept the statement on such, in my opinion, insufficient date as I have seen.

Your's fraternally, W. M.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All Letters and communications must be addressed to the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, 67 *Barbican, London, E.C.*

P.Z. 1744.—See Bro. Hughan's Memorials of the Masonic Union of A.D. 1813, a notice of which appeared some time since in these columns.

Q.R.—We have no wish to involve ourselves in controversy of any kind.

L.L.—We cannot undertake the task. It hardly comes within our province.

S.G.—You will most likely obtain it at Bro. Spencer's, Great Queen Street.

REVIEWS.

All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, 67 Barbican, E.C.

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MAGAZINES OF THE MONTH.

Fraser opens with an article on the "Portraits of John Knox," with six illustrations. So admirable a sketch of a man so eminent in history as the great Scottish divine is not often to be met with elsewhere in the pages of periodical literature, unless it be, perhaps in those of the quarterlies, or of *Blackwood*. There are three sources of interest attaching to this particular article. In the first place, it is a life-like sketch of a great man. In the second, it discusses the merits of sundry portraits of the great Reformer, and their claims to being received as genuine. In the third place, there is but one man living from whose pen it could have emanated—unless we are woefully mistaken—and that is Mr. Thomas Carlyle. We claim no special merit for this discovery, for the likeness to such works of his as *The French Revolution, Sartor Resartus*, &c. is unmistakable. Of the other articles, we would draw attention to a description of "Tetuan," and sundry suggestions as to "Recruiting and the Militia," by two officers of Her Majesty's Service, who are clearly at home in this very intricate subject. "The Secret Papers of the Empire" offer some very sad disclosures as to the great rottenness of things in France during the few years that preceded the late disastrous war. George Hoggan M.B. and C.M. writes very strongly against the cruel practice of "Vivisection," which, if what he urges can be substantiated, is far more commonly practised than the public have the slightest idea of. The number, which is *facilè princeps* of those that have appeared during the last six or eight months, closes with an account of "Three Experiments in Co-operative Agriculture."

Tinsleys', as we remarked last month, is chiefly to be admired for the excellence of its serial fiction. It is difficult, perhaps, to follow the threads of four different stories which run together, but the difficulty is materially lessened, when the constructive powers of the writers are as conspicuous as in these cases, and where the several narratives flow on so smoothly. We have a slight preference—but this, after all, is purely a matter of taste—for Mr. Farjeon's tale, "Love's Victory," and "With Harp and Crown." But almost of equal excellence with the serials, are the shorter tales and papers. Dr. C. Maurice Davies is agreeably chatty in his "Social Status Quo." "Dreams of a German Jew No. III.," and "Mistaken Identity," are very readable. There is, too, a gracefully-written Troubadour song from the pen of Dr. Davies, bearing the title of "Love's Concentrated Kiss," and the treatment is quite in consonance with this class of poetry.

The career of Jabez Clegg in the "Manchester Man" is the principal feature of *Cassell's Family Magazine*. Last month we left poor Jabez struggling for dear life in the swollen Irk, and we now find him escaping as by a miracle from the terrible risk to which he was accidentally subjected by his rough enemies of the grammar school. After his recovery he is apprenticed to Mr. Ashton, whose favour he at once secures by the steadiness of his conduct, his application to work, and the perfect truthfulness of his character. Clearly Jabez, as he deserves to be, is on the high road to fortune. Our readers, too, will find the other serial, "Pretty Miss Bellew," quite as interesting as in previous numbers. The other contributions are varied in character, but there is not one among them we should like to have seen omitted. A *family* magazine being the fittest place for articles on domestic matters, it is not surprising to find some such excellent papers as those on "How to give a nice little dinner?" "How shall I furnish my bed-room?"—a most important question as regards home comfort—

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and "Chit-Chat on Dress," by "Our Paris Correspondent." "Hints and Topics for April" treat of matters appropriate to this month, while "The Gatherer" has picked up, and offers us sundry hints, more or less valuable, *de omnibus rebus*.

Mayfair, which is issued quarterly, has reached its third number, and contains a fair amount of readable matter. "A Night Piece" is an effective picture. "Songs of an Old Man," by Frederick Tennyson, are not unworthy of a Laureate's brother. "Gwendraeth," by Helen C. Watney, is a tale worthy of a place in any periodical. "The Christmas Triad—Holly, Ivy and Mistletoe," by Eleanor Stredder, shows merit.

"The Key of the Church," by Johnny Ludlow, is, in our opinion, the best contribution to the *Argosy*. Few men write more easily than "Johnny." The characters he introduces are sterling, and the treatment of his generally too short tales is exceedingly happy. The present is incomplete as yet. "About Dogs" contains nothing very remarkable, but the writer, Miss Alice King, has a very pleasing style of saying her say. "The Début of Mademoiselle Agatha" records an incident—real or imaginary matters little—in French theatrical life. Our readers will be pleased with it.

In *Macmillan* we have read an excellently written account of the "Tercentenary Festival at Leyden," which, being somewhat less remote than Khiva or the North Pole, has not attracted the attention among English journalists which the occasion demanded. The worthy Hollanders were long our rivals at sea and in commerce, but the time has long passed since we exhibited our respect for each other by mutual hard knocks. In their struggle for independence during the reigns of William III. and Anne, and, undoubtedly, since the time of the French Revolution we have been hard and fast friends. It would certainly not have been an ill-timed compliment to these ancient friends and allies of ours to have obtained worthy records of so memorable a celebration as was the late Tercentenary in honour of the establishment of the Leyden University. Mr. Freeman contributes a good descriptive paper on the "Roman Diggings," conducted by Cavaliere Rosa, and there is a worthy memoir of the late "Sir Arthur Helps" by John Hullah, whose estimate of the late Clerk of the Council's merits is a perfectly just one. There is, too, a paper on "The French Theatre under Louis XIV.," by Henry M. Trollope, which deserves to be read.

Cornhill contains an article on "The Cost of Living,"—a subject which most of our readers, we imagine, cannot fail to be deeply interested in. The analysis is clearly made, and we do not think that many will be found who will raise objection to the writer's conclusions. There is a short tale, "The Marriage of Maria Fergus," while, in the way of serial fiction, we have the two admirable stories, "Three Feathers," by Mr. Black, and "Miss Angel." We cannot say we are much taken with the illustrations which accompany these tales.

In *Blackwood*, "Alice Lorraine" is concluded. Poor Alice, whom we left, last month, bent on seeking death in the Woeburn, to escape the hateful marriage with Stephen Chapman, is, with much difficulty, rescued, and, still greater difficulty, brought to life again; but Sir Roland, when the news is suddenly told him, is seized with an apoplexy, and only rallies after a long time. Meanwhile, a key, which proves to be that of the mysterious casket, on whose contents are supposed to hang the fortunes of the Lorraine family, is found. The casket is opened, and some magnificent jewels are the result. The price of certain of these more than suffices to restore the £50,000, of which Hilary had been robbed in Spain. He rejoins the army, therefore, again distinguishes himself—but not on the staff—both in the Peninsula and at Waterlo, where he loses his arm. In the short interval between the peace of 1814 and the latter campaign, he marries Mabel, whose brother, Charley, marries a daughter of the fine old sporting parson, the Rev. Struan Hales. Alice becomes Mrs. Aylmer, and all goes merrily as a marriage bell, save that Nancy Stilgoe, the witch, is drowned in the Woeburn, which afterwards dries up, and the Chapmans come to grief, but not very seriously, on quitting Combe Lorraine the day Alice tries to kill herself. As to the rest of the number, we need only say that "The Abode of Snow" contains an admirable description of the Vale of Kashmir, and that the closing article is a political one—that is almost a matter of course.

The *Contemporary* is a good number, the most noticeable articles in it being an historical one by Peter Boyne, on "The Covenanters, Charles II., and Argyle," a carefully written thesis by Prof. Whitney, in answer to the inquiry "Are Languages Institutions?" No. V. of Julian Hawthorne's "Saxon Studies," and a most elaborate contribution by Mr. St. George Mivart, on the highly attractive question of "Instinct and Reason." Mr. Mivart is an authority on this subject, his essay, therefore, is very well worth reading.

The *Gentleman's* is fully up to its standard, and contains, in addition to those interesting serials, "Dear Lady Disdain" and "Al Lyn Sahib," and the usual "Table Talk," a very beautiful poem by Robert Buchanan, "The Spirit of the Snow." This we take to be the gem of the number. There is too, a description of "At Niagara and Elsewhere," by George Dawson. Two other articles—"The Physiology of Esprit" and "In the Ladies' Gallery" of the House of Commons understood—deserve to be mentioned.

Mrs. Edwardes's tale, "Leah: a Woman of Fashion," is still deservedly the chief attraction in *Temple Bar*, which further contains some excellent papers. Such are "Beaumarchais, 'The French Wilkes,'" "The Shah, and what he did not see," "Old Folks and Young," by the author of "Things." It were unjust to pass unnoticed "Injin Joe," one of the best poems of its kind we have read of late. "A Lost Love at Pornic" is a capital tale for half an hour's leisure reading.

Puzzledom still flourishes in *Good Things*, under the auspices of Mrs. Broderip. Besides this, Henry Kingsley contributes Part I. of "A Chat with Boys about Dogs." George Harper writes of "Charles Lamb as a Bluecoat Boy," and there is a tabulated statement, which will be continued, of "Our Common Inland Birds," so arranged as to give the name of species, situation and structure of nest, number of eggs, and other particulars. The arrangement is excellent, and affords a good opportunity for youngsters to pick up a little knowledge of that of which, at all events, very many town boys are ignorant.

The *Leisure Hour* and *Sunday at Home*, are good sound publications, containing both entertaining and instructive information on a great variety of subjects. *Chambers's Journal* has, *inter alia*, an account of some highly interesting discoveries connected with the character and career in the Excise of the Poet Burns. As Burns was a Brother, and likewise W.M. of his Lodge, anything that throws further light on his history, cannot fail to awaken the curiosity of our readers. *Once a Week* is greatly improved in its illustrations, which, since the commencement of the new series, were not greatly to be commended. In *All the Year Round*, our readers will find much to interest them, such as Mr. Edmund Yates's serial, "A Silent Witness," "Criticism Extraordinary," and a brief history of Gloucester Cathedral. In the *Saturday Journal* are the concluding chapters of "The Sherlocks," and a short account of "The Moorish Conquest of Spain."

It seems strange we should find in *Colburn's New Monthly* the memoirs of Charles Kingsley and Sir Arthur Helps, when, only a month or two since, we had occasion to speak of a short memorial poem, in *Macmillan*, [by A. H.], the latter in honour of the former. But six weeks passed ere the writer of that short poem had passed away likewise, and now, in the pages of the same magazine, we see their memoirs side by side. These are most likely to attract the attention of our readers, but we may also commend to them the serials, and a "Visit to the Isle of Amsterdam."

Baily contains an account of the University Boat Race, a fourth chapter of "Frank Raleigh of Watercombe," and "Our Van," well crowded with excellent matter. The portraits are of Mr. H. Spencer Lucy, and Jupp, the eminent Surrey professional.

If our readers would study some good dramatic criticism, we beg to refer them to the *Westminster Papers*, in which they will find "Dramatic Notes" that are worth reading. The remarks, among "Whist Jottings," on the subject of "Bad Habits," may be studied also with great advantage.

Obituary.

We regret to have to record the deaths of three well known and highly respected members of the Craft. Bro. J. W. Reed, who died on 22nd March, at the early age of 29 years, was initiated in the Royal Oak Lodge, No. 871, 22nd Jan. 1868. After filling several offices, he was installed W.M. in Feb. 1872. He was Life Governor to the Boys' and Girls' School, and served as Steward to the former Charity. He was exalted in the Pythagorean Chapter, No. 79. He died of consumption, after a lingering illness; he was buried on Thursday, the 25th March.

Bro. Francis Robinson Hood died, at his residence, Salmon-street, Deptford, on Thursday, 25th March 1875. He was initiated in the Royal Oak Lodge, No. 871, on 22nd February 1871, and continued a subscribing member until his death. He never took office in the Lodge, as he entered the Order late in life, and was in ill health for many years before his decease. He was an annual subscriber to the Boys' and Girls' Schools. He held a prominent position in the town in which he resided, and no brother could be more respected. He leaves a widow and family to lament their loss.

Bro. J. T. Holmes Fudge died on Thursday morning, 18th March. He was initiated in the Perfect Ashlar Lodge, on 7th November 1867, he being the first person initiated after the Lodge had been consecrated, on 3rd October 1867. He served every office in the Lodge, and was, last year, S.W. His wife died a short time before the election of W.M. last year. When his turn came for election, in consequence of his loss, and failing health, he declined being elected into the chair. He, in a quiet and unobtrusive manner, worked well in the cause of Masonry, and was an annual subscriber to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. He has left nine sorrowing children to lament the bereavement they sustained in the death of one of the best of fathers.

The death was recently announced of Bro. David Osment, the description of whom, by a contemporary, as the "Father of the Freemasons" is, in the sense intended, most probably correct. Bro. Osment was born on Midsummer Day 1775, and was, therefore, within a little over three months of completing his century. He was initiated in 1819, and held the office of Tyler to his Lodge for about twenty years. Bro. Osment was, about 1850, elected an annuitant of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. He enjoyed good health to the very last, being only confined to his bed for three days previous to his death.

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THE THEATRES, &c.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.—This evening, UN BALLO IN MASCHERA. On Monday, ROBERTO IL DIAVOLO. On Tuesday, NORMA. On Thursday, L'AFRICAINE. At 8.30 each evening.

DRURY LANE.—Monday and Wednesday next, at 8.0, OTHELLO. The opera season will commence on Saturday, 10th April.

HAYMARKET.—This day (last time), at 7.30, OUR AMERICAN COUSIN and THE LOAN OF A LOVER. On Monday will be revived DAVID GARRICK and THE LITTLE TREASURE.

ADELPHI.—At 7.0, SARAH'S YOUNG MAN, NICHOLAS NICKLEBY, and the BELLES OF THE KITCHEN.

PRINCESS'S.—At 7.30, ROUND THE WORLD IN EIGHTY DAYS.

LYCEUM.—At 6.30, FISH OUT OF WATER. At 7.45, HAMLET.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.0, TWENTY MINUTES WITH A TIGER. AT 7.30, THE TWO ORPHANS.

STRAND.—At 7.0, INTRIGUE. At 7.30, OLD SAILORS. At 9.15, LOO AND THE PARTY WHO TOOK MISS. On Thursday, 8th, INTIMIDAD.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 7.45, SWEETHEARTS and SOCIETY.

GAIETY.—At 8.0, ROSE MICHEL.

GLOBE.—At 7.0—THE GUINEA STAMP and BLUE BEARD.

ST. JAMES'S.—At 7.45, BRIGHTON and CONRAD AND MEDORA.

ROYALTY.—At 7.30, FARCE. At 8.15, LA PERICHOLE. At 10.15, TRIAL BY JURY.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.0, A WHIRLIGIG. At 7.45, OUR BOYS. At 10, A REGULAR FIX.

CHARING CROSS.—At 7.30, DRAWING THE LINE. At 8.15, THE NEW MAGDALEN.

OPERA COMIQUE.—This evening (last time), at 8.0, LA FAMILLE BENOITON. On Monday, LES TRENTE MILLIONS DE GLADIATOR.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, THE GOOSE WITH THE GOLDEN EGGS. At 8.0, WHITTINGTON.

CRITERION.—LES PRES SAINT GERVAIS, &c.

COURT.—At 7.30, SHORT AND SWEET. At 8.30, LADY FLORA.

SURREY.—At 7.0, FARCE. At 7.30, HAMLET.

PHILHARMONIC.—At 7.30, THE OLD LOVE. At 8.45, THE TALISMAN.

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FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE

67 BARBICAN, E.C.

DOINGS OF THE WEEK.

EASTERTIDE inaugurates the out-door holiday season. Few, we imagine, can have had much fault to find with one very important element in pleasure. The clerk of the weather has not been latterly very considerate, but in one respect he has favoured us. There has been little risk of getting wet, though great, of catching cold. The keen East wind has blown through and through us, and seemingly all round us. That we have survived the trial, is a subject of great thankfulness. But we have no particular affection for March winds, however seasonable they may be. We seem to prefer somethipg slightly more genial. We are advocates for thoroughness in most matters, but the perishing thoroughness of a Nor'-Easter is one of the things a "fellah" certainly has no hankering after. However, sufficient for the time is the wind thereof. We are blown, as regards this particular grievance.

A holiday without sport were, in some respects, an absurdity. It is a matter of course, then, that all who had time, money, or inclination, have been indulging in laborious pleasure. By this we mean, they passed several hours, on one or more particular days, in reaching some particular spot. Then they ate and drank, as suited them, and then they spent several hours in returning home. This we believe to be an Englishman's idea of pleasure. Ten hours' close packing in a fusty-musty railway carriage, plus two hours of scramble for something to eat and much to drink. Such is the average Briton's idea of relaxation from labour. We would, for ourselves, far rather labour. We keenly appreciate "nothing." The sensation of nothing to do or to say, to the man who has been saying or doing much for a long series of months, is simply delicious.

Good Friday was the opening day of the Easter Holidays. The wind being high, and the day just outside one of the limits within which watercarts are engaged to lay the dust in our thoroughfares, progress through the streets was, to say the least, attended with much discomfort. Clearly, the ghost of red-tapeism haunts those to whom the government of our roadways is entrusted. Or, it may be, some eminent authority is in search of a new thing about road making, or perchance a precedent is wanting. Meantime, the wind has blown and the dust has risen, while the watercarts, till this week, have been conspicuous by their absence. This is what we call being a practical people, the truth being that in this and other matters of a similar kind we set common sense wholly at defiance. However, old Jupiter Pluvius being favourable, London, in spite of the wind, set forth in its thousands and ten thousands in search after pleasure. We are not ubiquitous. To record, therefore, what happened in all directions is impossible, even were it desirable. We flatter ourselves, moreover, that our theory and our practice are always on good terms with one another. We saw great crowds, and a good deal of rough horseplay, and that rough *badinage* which passes with the cockney for wit. Among the most noteworthy matters to be chronicled must be mentioned the great wrestling *fête*, at Lillie Bridge, of the Cumberland and Westmoreland Society, which is not merely a society for encouraging this particular kind of sport, but also a benefit society, which finds funds for indigent members. Formerly this annual festival of the two northern counties was held in the Agricultural Hall. Last year, however, they took to the West Brompton Grounds, and were so satisfied with the result as to renew their acquaintance with it this year. There was a goodly array of entries, including most of the best men of the day, while the spectators are estimated to have reached the very respectable figure of 6000. The result, we imagine, must have been highly gratifying, both as regards the spectacle and the society's funds. More wrestling followed on Saturday, but of the catchhold kind, so that Cumberland and Westmoreland were able to meet Devon

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and Cornwall and Lancashire. There was also a novel kind of sport—novel, at least, as regards appearance at our athletic meetings—in the shape of rope-pulling, besides a race for watermen and apprentices, the first prize being an outrigger, presented by Mr. J. G. Chambers, the second, a pair of sculls. For the rope-pulling, gangs of men from the Blues and Coldstreams entered, the latter being victors in the final. If our readers would know what this "revival" is like, we refer them to any Boys' Own Book of Sports and Pastimes. We remember, years ago, to have seen in one of these an illustration of two men pulling vigorously, each trying his hardest to drag his opponent over and beyond a certain line. The game, we think, was called, in those days, French and English, and the contrast between the two men was very flattering to our national vanity. One, the Englishman, looked as solid and substantial as his own native prize beef, and taking it very leisurely, while "Mounseer," who was long and thin, not to say skinny, was pulling his very hardest.

For the last two or three years the great volunteer field day on Easter Monday has not come off. Each successive year attempts have been made to revive it, but without success. The railway companies find it as much as they can manage to carry the thousands upon thousands of excursionists. We do not think this failure is matter for very serious regret. We fancy very few volunteers increased their store of military knowledge on the occasion. The most they brought away with them was, perhaps, a dim recollection of having marched past H.R.H. the Commander-in-Chief, or of the general appointed by him, of having marched up one hill and down another, fired away many rounds of blank cartridge—whether into friends or the enemy was, we believe, a matter of indifference—and got home, in somewhat loose formation, about the small hours of the morning. As far as our humble opinion goes, we think the plan of field days on a less ambitious scale, and involving less fatigue, is far preferable. Or a good march out is a sensible plan for combining the three objects of pleasure, healthy exercise, and adding to one's military experience. The most considerable of these smaller reviews or sham-fights came off at Putney, about 3,000 men being present, under the command of Lord Ranelagh on the one hand and Lord Truro on the other. Some of the volunteer regiments in the north of London had a field day in the Alexandra Park, while the 37th Middlesex marched, on Good Friday, to St. Albans, the head quarters for the night being fixed at Bro. Marks's establishment, the "Peahen," the men being billeted in the town. On Saturday the corps marched to Hertford, headquarters being fixed at the Salisbury Arms, and the men billeted, as at St. Albans, throughout the town. A church parade was held on Sunday, and on Monday the corps returned. This is about the most admirable kind of mixed pleasure and military training the most enthusiastic volunteer can wish for.

We hardly know if we are to consider the Arthur Orton demonstration in Hyde Park on Easter Monday, under the presidency of Dr. Kenealy, among the legitimate amusements and entertainments of the season, and whether it will be the first of a series of annual meetings to be held while the convict is in prison. As the congregation round about a particular spot of many thousands of people, this demonstration may be held to have been a great success. What moral effect it may or will have on the people of England, we do not feel ourselves competent to say. Those who benefited most were, no doubt, the pickpockets. Those who must feel the most delighted are the—more or less—650 members of the House of Commons, who now know there is one of their number who can play his part so admirably, as does the elect of Stoke.

The London Operatic Season has begun, the Royal Italian, Covent Garden, having been opened on Tuesday with a very effective rendering of "Guglielmo Tell." This was followed, on Thursday, by Weber's "Der Freischutz," and this evening will be given Verdi's "Un Ballo in Maschera." Thus Mr. Gye has some ten days' start of his rival at Her Majesty's, Drury Lane, Mr. Mapleson's campaign not opening till the 10th inst. We do not anticipate there will be any special departure from the usual programme. Doubtless the *répertoire* at each house will be pretty much what it has been in past years. Signor Vianesi conducts at the Royal Italian, while Bro. Sir M. Costa will resume the *bâton* at Her Majesty's.

The strike, unhappily, still continues in South Wales, nor see we much hope of any settlement of the dispute. Some of the collieries, however, it is proposed to re-open at the wages prevailing in January 1870, the plan being to give the locked-out colliers the opportunity of earning money, equal in amount to what they are entitled to receive in the shape of relief from the Poor Law Authorities. It remains to be seen if the proposal of the masters will be accepted, for the Merthyr Guardians seem to have their doubts as to the propriety of the plan. Meanwhile, there is no evidence of yielding on the part of the men, who have held sundry meetings, and decline to be the first to make any advances to the masters.

The death of General Sir John Cheape, G.C.B., Colonel Commandant Royal (late Bengal) Engineers, is the third we have had to announce during the past few weeks. This distinguished officer was born in 1792, and was in his 83rd year therefore. He entered the Royal Engineers in 1809, and served with the forces, under the late Marquis of Hastings, in the Pindarree War of 1815-16. He served also in the first and second Burmese Wars, being in the latter, second, and, on the departure of General Godwin, first in command of the army. He was also chief engineer at the siege of Mooltan in 1848, and was made a C.B. for his eminent services during the campaign.

On Tuesday the Mansion House was the scene of a very ancient ceremony. The Christ's Hospital boys, to the number of some 650, marched in procession from Newgate Street to the Mansion House, in order to receive the usual Easter gifts from the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor. A number of ladies and little children are always present in the saloon where the ceremony takes place, in order to witness it. Major Brackenbury, the Warden of the School, presented the boys in turn as they passed before his Lordship. The Grecians receive a guinea, probationers half-a-guinea, monitors half-a-crown, and the rest a shilling, the money being all bright and new from the Mint. Each boy afterwards is regaled with buns and a glass of wine. They then march home again. The Lady Mayoress, Mr. Alderman and Sheriff and Mrs. Ellis, Mr. Sheriff and Mrs. Shaw, Mr. Alderman Sidney, Mr. Alderman and the Misses Carter, and others, were present.

The chief news from St. Andrews is the installation of Dean Stanley as Lord Rector of the University on Wednesday, on which occasion he delivered the usual inaugural address, a marvel of eloquence, which was highly appreciated by the students for whose benefit it was spoken.

Almost the only item of news from abroad is that Marshal MacMahon has been decorated with the insignia of the Order of the Golden Fleece. The Emperor of Germany is sufficiently restored to health to have been enabled to pay a visit of congratulation to his Chancellor, Prince Bismarck, on the occasion of the latter's birthday. In Italy, and throughout Austro-Hungary, little else is talked about beyond the approaching visit of the Emperor to Venice, which is fixed, we believe, for the 5th. From Spain there is nothing further of importance, either in the way of war news, or of a nearer approach of peace.

The 6th annual concert of the A B and C Divisions of Police, on behalf of the Metropolitan and City Police Orphanage, was held on the 23rd ult., at St. James's Hall, and attracted a crowded and fashionable audience. Great credit is due to Bro. Jas. Mott, for his exertions on this occasion. He is a thorough musician, and on every occasion when the services of his talented daughters, Misses Emily and Lilly Mott are required, they are always ready to assist. Mr. Sims Reeves was announced to attend, but indisposition prevented him being present, which was sincerely regretted. Miss Edith Wynne, Miss Matilda Scott, and Miss Emily Mott (whose voice is visibly improved) sang charmingly. Miss Lilly Mott played very cleverly on the piano. Messrs. Cummings, Coates, Mr. Lewis Thomas, and Mr. Howard Reynolds, on the cornet, were listened to with pleasure, and several encores resulted. The band of the A division, under the able direction of Mr. Allcock, played very artistically, and, judging from the numbers present, it is to be hoped that the surplus will add to the funds of this excellent charity.

Those of our readers who stand in need of instruction in the business of the Craft, will be pleased to hear that Brother Crawley acts as Preceptor at the "Railway Tavern," Railway Station, Fenchurch Street, on Monday

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evenings, 7 to 9; at the "Royal Edward," Triangle, Hackney, on Tuesday evenings, 7.30 to 9.30; and at the "Hercules Tavern," Leadenhall Street, on Thursday evenings, 7.30 to 9.30.

Although it is rather early in the season for flower shows, yet Bro. Cutbush, who is well known in connection with the cultivation of charming varieties of the Hyacinth, opened his extensive grounds on Easter Monday to the public, 2,500 persons passed through his greenhouses during the day, and the exhibition is to continue, daily, until the 10th instant. We may mention that Bro. Cutbush this week obtained, at the Royal Botanic Society's Flower Show, the first prizes in two classes of Hyacinths, the first prize for Tulips, and the second for Azaleas. We understand that there was a tie between himself and another exhibitor in connection with this latter flower, and, in consideration of Bro. Cutbush having carried off three first prizes, he was awarded a second prize for what, under any other circumstances, would have carried off the first.

Bro. Eames, W.M. of the Neptune Lodge, No. 22, and Bro. C. Hogard P.M. 205, have been elected by the members of their respective Lodges to serve as Stewards at the Installation ceremony on the 28th instant.

THE DRAMA.

Easter Entertainments—Rose Michel—Trial by Jury—The French Plays.

THE Easter novelties are not so numerous as usual this year, but two or three of them are of sufficient importance to call for notice. Foremost of these comes *Rose Michel*, at the Gaiety, a powerful melodrama of the old fashioned type, which, in its original form, has had a great success in Paris. The story runs thus:—Rose Michel, the wife of a French innkeeper, has a daughter, who is about to be married. The only difficulty in the way is with regard to the "dot," which the father, like a miserly ruffian as he is, refuses to furnish. The mother resolves to steal the money, but, in the meanwhile, a guest, the Count de Grandchamp, arrives at the inn, and arouses the cupidity of Michel, by informing him that he has with him a large sum of money. To secure this booty, the innkeeper murders the Count, and throws his body into the Seine. Rose has been a witness of the deed, and, in a scene of great power, taxes her husband with the crime, she however hesitates to denounce the assassin, for fear of destroying her daughter's chance of marriage, although she uses her utmost endeavours to dissuade her daughter from the marriage. At last, influenced by the fact that an innocent man is being punished for her husband's crime, she accuses him of the deed, and is shut down by the sentinels. The English adaptation is rather faulty in places, and some passages seem rather to incline to bathos, but a little ingenuity might easily get over these defects, and the really excellent acting of the piece would then produce its due effect. Mrs. Gladstone, as Rose Michel, affords an admirable specimen of her power as an actress of tragedy, and her rendering of the part is very fine. Mr. Cowper sustains, with great art and force, the *rôle* of the miserly innkeeper, and Mr. Ryder, Mr. Maclean and Miss Hollingshead are also seen to good effect.

Trial by Jury, at the ROYALTY, is a play that will probably become widely popular. It is called a dramatic cantata, and its authors are Mr. W. S. Gilbert and Mr. Arthur Sullivan. Brimful of humour, and enlivened by some capital music, it is altogether a most delightful little piece, and furnishes a very welcome addition to the attractions of this theatre. It is, besides, exceedingly well acted by Mr. F. Sullivan (the Judge), Miss Nelly Bromley (Angelina), and Mr. Fisher (Edwin). When we add that the subject of the piece is an action for breach of promise before an English jury, it will be seen what excellent scope the subject affords for fun and satire.

Undisheartened by his misfortune of last year, M. Pitron, the enterprising manager of the French plays in London, has issued his prospectus for another season, and his company are now actually in possession of the OPERA COMIQUE THEATRE. *La Famille Benoiton* has been chosen for the opening piece, and the performances during the past week have been deemed more than satisfactory. Some hopes are held out, that Mdlle Croizette, who has lately acquired so great a reputation on the stage of the Theatre Française, will this year pay a visit to London. We wish M. Pitron every success.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS are, of all known remedies, acknowledgedly placed in the front rank, on account of their soothing and quieting effects in nervous irritability, restlessness and depression. Locally, also in irritable and painful ulcerations, abscesses, fistulæ, inflammations, carbuncles, and pimply eruptions, and blotches on the skin. These soothing and exhaustive properties are exactly those which are necessary, not only temporarily to alleviate pain and suffering, but also to bring about in the blood vessels and irritated tissues of the affected parts, that equable action, without which no permanent or effectual cure can be perfected. Throughout the universe these remedies have now established and maintain their reputation, for, by their use, thousands have been restored to health when all else had failed.

MASONIC BANQUET AT BODMIN.

WE are indebted for the following account of this banquet to the *Western Morning News*:—

In recognition of the valuable services rendered to Freemasonry by the V.W. Bro. Capt. Colvill, S.G.W. of Cornwall, the brethren of Lodge One and All, No. 330, of which Capt. Colvill is I.P.M., decided to entertain him last evening at a banquet given at the Royal Hotel, Bodmin. The banquet, which was admirably served, was numerously attended, and the manner in which Capt. Colvill's name was received was a proof of the high estimation in which he is held by the Craft throughout the county. Unfortunately, Capt. Colvill was unable to be present, severe illness preventing him from leaving bed, and general regret was expressed at the cause of his absence. As however, invitations had been sent to distant parts of the county, and also to the adjoining province of Devon, the banquet could not be postponed. The banquet was presided over by V.W. Bro. F. J. Hext, P.M. 330, P.P.G.S.W., and the vice-chair was occupied by V.W. Bro. R. Rich, P.M. 330, P.P.G.J.W. Among the other brethren present were Bros. Thomas Solomon, P.M., 331, P.P.S.G.W.; W. J. Hughan, P.M., 131, P.S.G.D. of England, P.P.G. Sec. of Cornwall; Rev. A. H. Ferris S.W., 496 P.G. Chap.; R. John P.M., 131 P.P.G.D.C.; J. Q. Couch P.M. 330, P.P.J.G.W.; W. Geach P.M. 856, P.P.J.G.W.; W. Guy P.M. 496, P.P.G.D.C.; Captain R. Edyvean P.M. 330, P.P.G.S.B.; J. R. Collins P.M. 330, P.P.G.S.B.; P. J. Wallis P.M. 330, P.P.G.R.; J. Hele, Mus. Bac., W.M. 330, P.P.G.O.; Hon. E. F. Leveson-Gower M.P.; H. S. Stokes, Clerk of the Peace for Cornwall; J. Crang, Mayor of Bodmin; T. Olver, jun. W.M. 331; A. C. Sandoe P.M. 330; C. Truscott P.M. 496; T. Webber S.W. 75; J. Bartlett W.M. 856; W. Tomkin P.M. 977; R. S. Olver P.M. 330; T. Hawken S.W. 330; W. Rowe J.W. 330; J. Fly S.W. 1247; S. Trevail D.C. 330; G. Garland, Organist 330; W. H. Beacock J.D. 330; O'Neil I.G. 330; C. Mutton D.C. 1205; C. D. Stentiford S.S. 159; W. Garland S.S. 70; J. Hawke S. 330; H. Lander, R. Adams, G. Vincent, E. T. Crabb, C. Crabb jun., J. Oliver, Martyn, Stribley, T. Hamley, Evelyn, Roberts, and P. Carroll.

The toast list commenced with "The Queen and Craft," proposed by the Chairman, and most cordially received by the brethren.—The Chairman then gave "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.W.G.M., the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon M.W. Pro. G.M., and the Grand Lodge of England," and in so doing referred to the great Masonic gathering at Plymouth in August last. Such a gathering was, he believed previously unknown, and it proved the strength of Masonry. Freemasonry was progressing, and he thanked God for it. In those days they wanted men to reflect and not to be carried away by the speeches of men going about the country for a variety of purposes. With the toast he coupled the name of a brother most distinguished in Masonry, a man of very high position in that county, a man who had worked very hard for Freemasonry—(loud applause)—a man tried and proved, and who, although young in years, was old in Masonry. (Renewed applause.)

The V.W. Bro. W. J. Hughan, in replying, mentioned that although the Grand Lodge of England was only founded in the last century, it had already instituted, directly or indirectly, a hundred Grand Lodges, with ten thousands subordinate lodges, and three millions of members. Referring to the antiquity of Freemasonry, he remarked that he had before now tried trace its origin, but he had failed to do so; and lately he had become a wise man, and had given up the task. Freemasonry had been condemned with regard to its relations to religion, to the State, and to society in general. Yet scarcely in England, or in any other country, was there a Lodge which had not a minister for its chaplain. Little was known of the great good being done by the Grand Lodge, and by the great Masonic charities. The annual income of Grand Lodge was £20,000, the voluntary contributions to the great London Masonic charities amounted to £20,000, and the total income of Lodges in England and of those abroad in connection with the English Grand Lodge was £150,000. Altogether about a quarter of a million was raised annually by the brethren under the Grand Lodge of England, and he believed most of this money was very carefully disbursed. Greater attention was now being paid to education by the brethren than formerly, and one province alone was educating fifty children, and an adjoining province forty children. The children of deceased brethren were being educated, and aged brethren and the widows of brethen were being taken care of. Such an institution could not be inimical to true religion. And then with regard to its relation to the State, the Prince of Wales was about to be installed as Grand Master of the Order, and no one in his senses would endeavour to pull down his own throne.

The Chairman next proposed, in eulogistic terms, the toast of "The Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, Grand Master of Cornwall, and the Grand Lodge of Cornwall."

Bros. Solomon and Couch replied.

In giving to toast of the evening, the Chairman paid a high tribute to Captain Colvill, both as a Freemason and also as a governor of Cornwall County Prison.

The next toast was that of "The Chairman," proposed in happy terms to Bro. Stokes, and as happily acknowledged. Both Mr. Stokes and Mr. Hext mentioned instances of great kindnesses and sacrifices made by one Freemason on behalf of the other.

Bro. Leveson-Gower, M.P., then proposed "The visitors," and remarked that it gave him great pleasure to see that so many visiting brethren had assembled to do honour to Capt. Colvill. Freemasonry was not a limited fraternity, and he thought that the more Freemasons from different places met together the more would those truly Masonic feelings of benevolence and goodwill be extended. One of the great evils of the present day was a widespread feeling of jealousy. There were jealousies between town and country, jealousies between county and county, and jealousies between country and

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country, and one of the pre-eminent merits of Freemasonry was that it knocked down those jealousies.

Bros. Solomon, Webber, Truscott, Guy, Stribley, and Johns acknowledged the toast, which had been very cordially received.

Bro. Rev. A. H. Ferris gave "The W.M. and Officers of 'One and All' Lodge," which Bros. Hele, Hawken, and Rowe acknowledged.

"The Banquet Committee," "The Past Masters of 330," and "The Ladies" were also toasted, and the banquet, which had been admirably conducted, was brought to a conclusion.

A FLOWER SHOW IN SPRING.

OUR worthy Bro. James Cutbush (Wm. Cutbush & Son), whose name has been for some years closely associated with the cultivation of the Hyacinth, has thrown open his Nurseries at Highgate to the public during the Easter holidays. The whole of his collection of this charming household flower are now, and will be for another week, in fine perfection. They are attractively arranged, with other decorative plants, such as showy tulips; camellias, clean and healthy; azaleas, literally a blaze of flower; cyclamen, charmingly beautiful; stately palms, and hundreds of other flowering plants, which we cannot undertake to name. The Hyacinth, however, holds the post of honour in the collection. Some examples are of a very choice kind, but the majority are such as those supplied by Bro. Cutbush to his clients at a cheap rate in the autumn. We were much pleased with the dark blue Angus, Baron von Tuyll, Lord Melville, King of the Blues, Marie, and amongst the light blues with Grand Lilas, Charles Dickens, Czar Peter. The darker kinds, such as General Havelock, La Nuit, and Mimosa are well worthy of attention. The most attractive amongst the reds are Garibaldi, Linnæus (bright), Mdme. Hodson, Mrs. Beecher Stowe, Lord Macaulay, Solfatara, and Florence Nightingale. Amongst whites, there are some charming spikes of bloom. La Grandesse stands out very prominently, as does one named Mrs. James Cutbush, both of these are new; then comes Mont Blanc, Alba superbissima, Grandeur, a Merveille blush and Queen of the Netherlands; In yellows Ida is very beautiful, and so is Duke of Malakoff, buff striped. Those of our readers who are interested in floriculture, would do well to pay Bro. Cutbush a visit, they will find very much to admire, and may carry away a few ideas for the management of the garden, which may be of value. We learn that the number of visitors on Monday was over 2,500, the majority of them were of the well-to-do-classes, but every decently attired person was allowed to pass in. We congratulate Bro. Cutbush upon the success which has hitherto attended his exhibition, and we cannot but think that pure recreation of this kind, if it were more general, would help to wean the working classes from the degrading pleasure to which many amongst them fall victims at this holiday season.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY NEWS.

FRIDAY.

THE bank directors decided at their meeting yesterday to continue the rate of discount at 3½ per cent. as it is expected there will be a continuance of bullion movements in favour of the bank in consequence of the demand for gold for export having entirely ceased, and the favourable state of the foreign changes.

The return of revenue to 31st ult. shows that the estimates of the Chancellor of the Exchequer have been more than realised, the surplus amounting to nearly half a million. Considering the great amounts of taxation which, last year, were remitted, notably the sugar duty, estimated at £2,000,000, and the horse duty at £480,000, together with the decrease in the Income Tax of £1,540,000, this result is very satisfactory. The Customs, Taxes, Income Tax, Post Office and Crown Lands show an increase, while the Excise, Stamps, Telegraphs, and Miscellaneous, are below the estimate. Consols are quoted at 92¼ to 93 for money or account.

The prospectus has been issued of the Borough of Hackney Public and Masonic Hall Company Limited, with a capital of £10,000 in shares of £2 each. The prospectus states, that the building, which is in course of erection, will comprise a Hall, capable of holding 1,000 persons, and suitable for Public and Masonic Meetings, Musical and other Entertainments, together with smaller rooms adjoining, for the accommodation of Lodges, Clubs, Committees and private parties. The site, which occupies a central position in the Borough, has been obtained on very favorable terms, and is situate in close proximity to rail, tram and omnibus, by which the City and West End may easily be reached.

At the annual general meeting of the Law Union Fire and Life Insurance Company, held on Wednesday last, it was announced that 5,151 fire policies had been issued during the year ended 30th November 1874, yielding, in new premiums, £7,656 2s 9d, and in the life department 261 policies, insuring £207,460, yielding, in new premiums, £8,122 7s, and that the assets of the company were £425,588 15s 10d. A dividend and bonus together of 15 per cent. were declared.

A dividend at the rate of 14 per cent. per annum, free of income tax, was declared at the annual meeting of the proprietors of the Bank of Scotland, held on 30th ult., the profits for the year, together with £15,854 brought forward, amounting to £191,493. The reserve fund and the balance carried forward amount to £401,493.

The directors of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, will recommend, at the meeting to be held on 21st inst., a dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, and that £20,000 be carried to reserve fund, leaving a balance of £7,260.

The directors of the New London and Brazilian Bank have declared an interim dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum.

The English railway market is, on the whole, dull, the principal exception being Chatham and Dover, which are quoted, Ordinary, at 28¼ to 28½; and Preference, at 81¼ to 81½. Other prices are as follow:—South Eastern Deferred, 110⅛ to 110½; Brighton, 98½ to 98¾; Metropolitan, 83¾ to 84; District, 37⅛ to 37¼; Sheffield, 77⅛ to 78⅛; Great Northern (A), 154¼ to 155; and Caledonian, 103⅛ to 103½.

The North British Railway Company opened three branch lines on the 1st inst.—viz., the Boroughbridge and Knaresborough, the Kirbymoorside and Pickering, and the Loftus and Saltburn.

Foreign Stocks are tolerably good, except Peruvian, which are quoted, 6 per Cents. at 69¾ to 70¼, and 5 per Cents. at 53¾ to 54½; Egyptian of 1868 are at 83¾ to 84¼, do. 1873, 80⅛ to 80⅜; Khedive 78⅛ ex. div., Turkish 5 per Cents. 43⅜ to 43¾; do. 1869, 53⅛ to 54 ex. div., do. 1873, 52⅜ to 52⅝ ex. div., do. Band C. 82¼ to 82½; Italian 71⅛ to 71⅜, French 5 per Cents. 101⅜ to 101⅝, Spanish 23⅛ to 23⅜, and Uruguay 55 to 55½.

In Telegraphs the principal feature is the decline of Anglo-Americans, which have reached 68⅛ to 68¼.

Bro. Colonel Thomas S. Martin, who fell at the head of his regiment (11th Pennsylvania Volunteers), in the second battle of Bull Run, on the 30th of August 1862, was a member of the Masonic Fraternity, being at the time of his death an officer of Industry Lodge, 131, A.Y.M., a member of Excelsior Mark Lodge, No. 216, and of Oriental H.R.A. Chapter of this city. When killed, he had on his body a large, beautiful Masonic mark, in the shape of a Maltese Cross, of solid gold, which was not recovered with his body. In the month of September 1863, Bro. Matt. F. Ash, Jackson, Mississippi, and member of Jackson R.A. Chapter, No. 6, while on a visit to Corpus Well, a watering-place, in Hinds County, found in the possession of one of the guests, named Thad. Miller, from Yazoo River, "formerly of the 18th Mississippi regiment, Longstreet's corps, of the now defunct C.S.A." a Maltese Cross, bearing the name of T. S. Martin, with the names of various Lodges and Masonic symbols engraved thereon. Mr. Ash and Mr. Miller addressed some letters on the subject of this cross to the officers of Industry and Oriental Lodges to New York, instead of to Philadelphia, which were handed to Bro. James M. Austin, M.D., the Grand Secretary of New York, who had in turn transmitted them to the Grand Secretary, Bro. John Thompson, of this city. Mr. Miller said in his letter, dated Vicksburg, 11th September 1866, "I do not desire to retain the cross, heretofore held as a trophy, and as it might afford the nearest relative of the former Thomas S. Martin, a pleasure to have it, I will, upon application to me of the nearest relative, with a certificate from Industry Lodge, No. 131, accompanying said application, forward the cross by express. It was captured near the body of a Federal officer, near Gettysburg." The widow of Colonel Martin, residing in this city, having been furnished by Masonic friends with the necessary certificates of Industry Lodge and of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, then wrote to Mr. Miller, enclosing said certificates the receipt of which he acknowledged, 11th October 1866, stating in his letter that "the cross would be forwarded by Messrs. Johns, Lee and Johns, of Vicksburg, as soon as he could return to his home on Yazoo River, which will be in two weeks." Nothing, however, was heard of the cross until last Saturday. Henry Gorman, Esq., of this city, connected, with Adams' Express Company, a member of the Masonic Fraternity, in conversation with a gentleman of that establishment, Mr. Roberts stated that he intended joining the Masonic procession on the occasion of the laying of the corner-stone of the Masonic Temple. Mr. R. was not aware that Mr. Gorman was a Mason; and in further conversation, added, that he had, within the last week or two, found a Masonic cross among the unclaimed packages. Upon showing it to Mr. Gorman, the latter immediately recognised in the name of Thomas S. Martin a bosom friend, former fellow member of the Washington Grays. He at once communicated with Mrs. Martin, to whom this memento—so dear to herself and children—was restored on Monday last. The package had been misdirected, and had been lying in Adams' Express office for one year and nine months. Almost six years have elapsed since this Masonic mark, lost on the battle-field of Bull Run, and found on the battle-field of Gettysburg, was returned to the lawful heirs of its rightful owner.—*Philadelphia Keystone.*

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DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be greatly obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the kingdom would favour us with a copy of their summonses each time of issue.

SATURDAY, 3rd APRIL.

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

308—Affability, Private Rooms, Buttoms, Stansfield.
1458—Truth, Royal Archer Inn, Manchester.

MONDAY, 5th APRIL.

12—Fortitude and Old Cumberland, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
69—Unity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate.
72—Royal Jubilee, Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street.
83—United Lodge of Prudence, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
144—St. Luke's, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, Basinghall-street.
188—Joppa, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
256—Unions, Freemasons' Hall.
1319—Asaph, Freemasons' Hall.

R. A. 29—Old King's Arms, Freemasons' Hall.

37—Anchor and Hope, Freemasons' Hall, Bolton.
50—Knights of Malta, George Hotel, Hinckley.
53—Royal Sussex, Masonic Hall, Bath.
113—Unanimity, Bull Hotel, Preston.
154—Unanimity, Masonic Hall, Wakefield, Yorks.
381—Harmony and Industry, New Inn, Over Darwen.
1009—Shakspere, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
1077—Wilton, Red Lion Hotel, Blackley, near Manchester.
1311—Goderich, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
1339—Wentworth, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
1302—De Warren, Masonic Hall, Halifax, Yorks.
1519—Albert Edward, Albion Hotel, Clayton-le-Moors.

K. T. 29—Faith, Masonic Hall, Bradford.

TUESDAY, 6th APRIL.

Colonial Board at 3, Freemasons' Hall.
7—Royal York, Freemasons' Hall.
18—Old Dundee, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
101—Temple, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
217—Stability, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
765—St. James', Bridge House Hotel, Southwark.
1259—Duke of Edinburgh, Cape of Good Hope Tavern, Commercial-road.
1261—Golden Rule, Cafe Royal, Regent-street.
1298—Royal Standard, Marquess Tavern, Canonbury.
1472—Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich.

R. A. 169—Temperance, White Swan Tavern, Deptford.

57—Humber, Freemasons' Hall, Hull.
70—St. John's, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
103—Beaufort, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
124—Marquis of Granby, Freemasons' Hall, Durham.
265—Royal Yorkshire, Masonic Hall, Keighley, Yorks.
1134—Newall, Freemasons' Hall, Salford.
1322—Waverley, Church Inn, Hurst Cross, Ashton-under-Lyne.

961—Clones, Thompson's Hotel, Clones, Ireland.
M. 161—Walton, St. Lawrence Boys' School, Kirkdale.
R. A. 296—Loyalty, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
R. A. 600—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Bradford, Yorks.

WEDNESDAY, 7th APRIL.

811—Zetland, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.

R. A. 55—Constitutional, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
R. A. 304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
R. A. 1125—St. Peter's, Masonic Hall, Tiverton.

74—Athol, Masonic Hall, Severn-street, Birmingham.
81—Doric, Private Room, Woodbridge, Suffolk.
94—Phœnix, Freemasons' Hall, Sunderland.
298—Harmony, Masonic Rooms, Rochdale.
646—Humphrey Chetham, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
678—Earl Ellesmere, Church Hotel, Kersley, near Bolton.
838—Franklin, Peacock Hotel, Boston.
992—St. Thomas, Griffin Hotel, Lower Broughton.
1144—Milton, Ryecroft Inn, Ashton-under-Lyne.
1274—Earl of Durham, Freemasons' Hall, Chester-le-street.

M. 36—Furness, Hartington Hotel, Barrow-in-Furness.
R. A. 300—Perseverance, Pitt and Nelson Hotel, Ashton-under-Lyne.

THURSDAY, 8th APRIL.

10—Westminster and Keystone, Freemasons' Hall.
19—R. Athelstan, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
91—Regularity, Freemasons' Hall.
206—Friendship, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
263—Bank of England, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
534—Polish National, Freemasons' Hall.
647—Canonbury, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
879—Southwark, Southwark Park Tavern, Southwark.
1076—Capper, Marine Hotel, Victoria Docks, West Ham.
1216—Macdonald, Head Quarters 1st Surrey Volunteer Corps, Brunswick-road, Camberwell.
1471—Islington, Cock Tavern, Highbury.

R. A. 73—Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark.
R. A. 149—St. George, Globe Tavern, Royal Hill, Greenwich.
R. A. 619—Bendon, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, Basinghall-street.

97—Palatine, Masonic Hall, Sunderland.
112—St. George's, Masonic Hall, Exeter.
139—Britannia, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
824—Albert, Duke of York Inn, Shaw, near Oldham.
1055—Derby, Knowsley Hotel, Cheetham, near Manchester.
1147—St. David, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.

K. T. Mount Grace, Masonic Hall, Stockton-on-Tees.

FRIDAY, 9th APRIL.

36—Glamorgan, Freemasons' Hall, Cardiff.
134—Caledonian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
157—Bedford, Freemasons' Hall.
478—Aire and Calder, Ouse-street, Goole.
697—United, George Hotel, Colchester.
815—Blair, Town Hall, Hulme.
1091—Harrogate and Clare, Masonic Rooms, Harrogate.
1121—Wear Valley, Talbot Hotel, Bishop Auckland.
1428—Earl Spencer, Freemasons' Hotel, New Wandsworth.
R. A. 33—Britannic, Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 61—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Halifax.
R. A. 962—Bank Terrace, Haygreaves' Arms Hotel, Accrington.
K. T.—St. Joseph, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
K. T.—St. George, Freemasons' Hall, Oldham.
K. T.—St. John of Jerusalem, Masonic Hall, Todmorden.

SATURDAY, 10th APRIL.

Quarterly Annual Court, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 12.
108—London, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
173—Phœnix, Freemasons' Hall.
1361—United Service, Greyhound, Richmond, Surrey.
1446—Mount Edgcumbe, Swan Tavern, Bridge-road, Battersea.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—145—St. Stephen, St. James's Hall, Writer's-court.
TUESDAY—1—Mary's Chapel, Waterloo Hotel, Waterloo-place.
WEDNESDAY—2—Canongate, Kilwinning-street, St. John's Chapel, St. John-street.
" R. A. 1—Edinburgh, Freemasons' Hall.
THURSDAY—8—Journeymen, Blackfriars-street, High-street.
FRIDAY—56—Canongate, Kilwinning-street, St. John's Chapel, St. John's-st.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Grand Master's Lodge, No. 1.—The usual monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on the 15th ult., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street. There were present Bros. G. Payne W.M., E. Thompson D.D. Chaplain, R. H. Giraud T., J. Case P.G.S. Secretary, I. T. Smith S.D., R. Gooding B.A. M.D. J.D., S. Rawson P.P.G.M. China, D.C., E. Fenner Steward. Past Masters W. S. Gover P.G.S., W. A. Colls P.G.S., E. Bayley P.G.S., W. H. Wilkins P.G.S., Sir F. Wyatt Truscott, Alderman, &c., H. Bigg P.G.S., F. Bennock P.G.S., W. H. Trego P.G.S., and H. Sanderson P.G.M. Bengal. Bros. G. C. D. Albiac, G. R. Steel, A. Hyam, T. Gretham, J. Conder, W. Ellis Alderman and Sheriff, J. H. Fitch, A. B. Frend, and several other brethren. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Mr. J. Slater, who was initiated into Freemasonry as an E.A.P. The Lodge was opened in 3rd degree, and Bro. G. R. Steel was raised to M.M. The Lodge was resumed in 2nd degree, and Bro. Alderman Ellis was passed to the Fellow Craft. The Lodge was resumed in 1st degree, and closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet. The following visitors were present:—R. Bradley P.P.G. Registrar Berks and Bucks, E. Wilson W.M. 1464 S.W. 2, J. Silbourne 1, H. S. Hill Harmony Lodge, A. H. Neuffert 18, H. Green P.M. 256, T. Gentham 2, C. Gale S.W. 1347, J. H. Owens P.M. 4, A. G. Tomlyn P.M. Celtic Lodge, Grand Lodge of Scotland.

Enoch Lodge, No. 11.—An emergency meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, 30th ult., for the purpose of electing a Steward to serve on the 28th instant at the Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. The votes of the brethren were unanimous in favour of the W.M., Bro. Bradstreet.

Lodge of Prosperity, No. 65.—The Installation meeting of this Lodge, whose working is appreciated by all who have visited it, was held on the 25th March, Bro. Davey W.M. in the chair. Bros. Carruthers S.W., Goodwin P.M. Treasurer, J. Rich Secretary, and Past Masters E. C. Mather, J. Bellerby, Arnold, Forbes, J. L. Mather, Cook and Cornwall. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were duly read and confirmed. A Board of Installed Masters was then formed, and Bro. Leins was presented for the purpose of Installation, and that ceremony was rendered by Bro. J. L. Mather in an impressive and perfect manner. At the conclusion of the addresses, he was deservedly congratulated by the brethren and visitors for the admirable manner in which he had performed the ceremony. The W.M. having been saluted according to ancient form, invested his officers, viz.: Bros. Davey I.P.M., Bowyer S.W., Daniels J.W., Goodwin P.M. Treasurer, Rich Secretary, Birch S.D., Brain I.G., Stanley and Matthews Stewards, J. L. Mather D.C., and Speight Tyler. Bro. J. L. Mather was unanimously elected to act as Steward at the Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as M.W.G.M. Several brethren were proposed as auditors, and the brethren, numbering ninety-six, adjourned to a very splendid banquet, *a la Russe*, provided by Bro. Ritter, whose catering for the comforts of the brethren deserves special commendation. Grace having been sung by Bros. Seymour Smith, Frank Elmore and Lester, the W.M. proposed the health of H.M. the Queen, and, with feelings of great pleasure, said that three scions of Royalty were Freemasons, and Her Majesty was one of the patrons of our Order. (Loud cheers.) The "National Anthem" was then sung, Bro. Frank Elmore giving a new verse,—

> "Great Architect above,
> Shield with Thy mighty love,
> This Lodge from harm.
> Oh, may our Order shine,
> And fight with strength divine,
> 'Gainst all our foes and Thine,
> Saved by Thine arm."

The W.M., in proposing the toast of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as M.W.G.M., said he was proud to mention that name, not only as head of our Order, but also as the future King of England. (Loud cheers.) The W.M., in proposing the toast of the Pro. G.M., mentioned his qualifications to occupy the chair in the absence of the M.W.G.M. He then, in proposing the health of the Earl of Skelmersdale D.G.M., spoke of the merits of that noble brother. He was proud to see so excellent a representative as that of Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary, who had honoured them by his presence. (Cheers.) That worthy and distinguished brother had endeared himself by his urbanity and thorough knowledge of his arduous duties, and his presence was an honour to any Lodge he might visit. (Cheers.) Bro. John Hervey, in rising to return thanks for the Grand Officers, spoke of the great event of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales's Installation, and also of the merits of the Prov. G.M. and the Deputy Grand Master, whose qualifications were always fully appreciated. Bro. Sir Albert Woods, in

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conjunction with that noble brother, had been working night and day to organize such a meeting at the Albert Hall as would never be witnessed again. (Cheers.) Bro. Davey I.P.M., in felicitous terms, proposed the toast of the W.M., he was one that all who knew respected, and he was able to carry out every duty the Lodge required of him. The W.M. briefly responded to the toast, and proposed the health of Bro. Davey I.P.M., who had zealously discharged his duties to the satisfaction of the brethren—he should be proud to follow in his footsteps. He was pleased to present, in the name of the Lodge, a very elegant gold P.M. jewel, and also a valuable gold watch, to that worthy brother. He hoped he might live long to enjoy them. Bro. Davey suitably returned thanks for the valuable gifts. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the installing master, Bro. J. L. Mather P.M. He had to thank that brother for the Masonic instruction imparted by him, and which enabled him (the W.M.) to occupy the chair of the Earl of Zetland Lodge, and also of this influential Lodge. Bro. E. C. Mather P.M., who is a Steward for the Girls' School, returned thanks for the Masonic Charities. The toast of the visitors found an able exponent in Bro. Baxter P.G.S. Bros. Bowyer, Rich, and Daniel, returned thanks for the Wardens and officers. The Tyler's toast concluded a very delightful evening; Bro. Speight efficiently discharging his duties as toast-master. The visitors were Bros. J. Hervey G.S., Baxter P.G.S., M'Cubbin P.G.S. (Berks and Bucks), Price 657, Harrias P.M. 73, Wilson P.P.G.J.W. (Essex), Fysh 1364, C. Benson 192, Foote W.M. 948, S. Lazarus P.P.G.W. (Wilts), Watkins W.M. 212, Davis 188, Verdun 188, Frank 212, A. Borgen 188, Hutchins 569, H. M. Levy P.M. 188, &c. Several excellent glees and humourous songs were given during the evening, Bros. F. Elmore, Lester, Seymour Smith, &c., specially distinguishing themselves.

Egyptian Lodge, No. 27.—A meeting was held on Thursday, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, under the presidency of the W.M. Bro. S. R. Lamble. The meeting was very fully attended by lay members, in addition to a strong body of Past Masters, among whom were Bros. H. G. Buss Treasurer, J. B. Poole Secretary, C. Atkins, F. Harrison, W. H. Libbis, D. H. Jacobs, T. Sheppard, H. F. Hoare, John Coutts, and C. B. Payne. After one brother had been raised to third degree, a gentleman was initiated. The sum of 10 guineas was voted to the list of Bro. Poole, who had been appointed a Steward for the next festival of the Girls' School. During the evening the Treasurer of the Lodge, Bro. Buss, in returning thanks for the toast of "The Past Masters," drew attention to the benevolent fund which had been established in connection with the Lodge during the last two or three months. By the assistance of the brethren, though it had been established only so short a time, the fund already amounted to over £150, and it was intended to invest £100 of this sum next week. Additions, however, to the fund should constantly be made; he was not in favour of a large sum being accumulated; the fund was intended to assist cases of distress, not to be hoarded, and from time to time he hoped to see it contribute in a liberal manner to the three great Masonic charitable institutions. He also informed the brethren that within the last 14 years the Egyptian Lodge had subscribed more than £400 to these institutions before the benevolent fund was established.

Justice Lodge, No. 147.—An emergency meeting of this Lodge was held at the White Swan Inn, on Wednesday, 24th ult., for the purpose of nominating a Steward to assist at the Installation of the Prince of Wales as W.M.G.M. The W.M., Bro. John Roper, was present, as were also his Officers and a goodly number of brethren, also P.M.'s George Bolton, Bartlett Treasurer, G. Chapman Secretary, Batt, Cavell, and several others. The choice of the brethren fell upon Bro. G. Bolton, who was elected unanimously. This being the whole of the business for which the brethren were called together, the Lodge was closed in due form and adjourned.

Joppa Chapter, No. 188.—A convocation of this Chapter was held on Wednesday, the 31st March (in lieu of the ordinary meeting of the last Monday in the month), at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate Street. Comps. H. M. Levy M.E.Z., M. Emanuel H., M. J. Emanuel J., S. V. Abrahams P.Z. Treasurer, P. Dickenson S.E., S. Jacobs P.S., and P.Z.'s S. Lazarus, S. Pollitzer and E. P. Albert. The Chapter was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Ballots were taken for the following brethren, viz., Bros. L. Klein 184, M. S. Phillips, D. Davis 141, J. Granebaum W.M. 1017, L. Davids 188, P. A. Morse 1017, and J. Row 454, who were duly exalted into R. A. Masonry by Comp. S. Pollitzer, assisted by Comps. S. V. Abrahams and Emanuel, their working being perfect. A sum of £2 2s was voted to be placed on the list of the M.E.Z., Bro. H. M. Levy, who is a Steward at the forthcoming Festival of the Boys' School in June. The Chapter was then closed, and the company sat down to a capital banquet provided by Comp. Jennings, and superintended by Comp. Keeping; the W.M. gave the usual loyal and R. A. toasts. Some elegant speeches were made, and Bros. J. H. Ryley, Dickenson and D. Davis contributed to the harmony. The visitors were Comps. Herf Z. elect 180, Cramp, Nassau Chapter, New York, and Rosene (Polish National Chapter).

Euphrates Lodge, No. 212.—The above Lodge met on the 24th ult., at Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons' Avenue, Bro. May W.M., Cutler S.W., Bassett J.W., Watkins P.M. Treasurer, Coverley P.M. Secretary, Halsey S.D. Woods I.G. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Messrs. Roberts, Chapman, Myers and Drescher were initiated. Bro. Hammond P.M. was elected Steward for the Installation meeting of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren, about 40 in number, sat down to a very sumptuous banquet, provided in Bro. Gosden's best style. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and complimentary speeches. The visitors were, Bros. Bowren P.M. 933, Treager 15, Wilcox 975, Leslie 1306, Baker 1326, Price 1327, and Pierrepoint 1365.

Virtue and Silence Lodge, No. 832.—A meeting was held on Thursday, 18th ult., at the White Lion Hotel, Hadleigh. There were present Bros. A. K. Haslett I.P.M., A. J. Grimwade S.W., W. C. Eltham J.W., F. Grimwade S.D., W. Mackney J.D., S. Cooper I.G. P.M.'s W. Hart P.P.G.J.D., E. B. Powell P.P.G. Super., W. Gardiner P.P.G.P., A. Pettit P.P.G.A.D.C., and several other brethren. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. The Lodge was then opened in the second and third degrees, when Bro. Hitchcock was raised to the sublime degree. The Lodge resumed in first degree, when Bro. King, having answered the questions satisfactorily, retired; the Lodge being resumed in second degree, Bro. King was passed to the F.C. degree. The Lodge was then closed and adjourned. The above ceremonies were rendered by Bro. Hart P.M. in a most solemn and impressive manner.

Royal Oak Lodge, No. 871.—An emergency meeting of the above Lodge was held at the White Hart Tavern, High-street, Deptford, on 25th March. S. O. Lewin W.M., Myatt S.W., J. J. Pake J.W., W. Andrews P.M. Treasurer, F. Walters P.G.P. Secretary P.M. and Secretary, R. Harman D.C., H. J. Fisher Organist, and Bros. Williams, Jones, Firth, Meers, E. James, Good, R. Harvey, J. Allen, J. Phillips, G. Porter, Barr, J. Rennie, &c. The Lodge was opened, and Bros. G. Jones, and T. Firth were raised to the third degree, and Bro. J. T. Phillips was passed to the second degree, by Bro. G. Andrews P.M., in his usual perfect manner. Bro. Andrews was elected to act as Steward at the Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. A letter of condolence to the widow of the late Bro. Reed was proposed and carried.

Excelsior Lodge, No. 1155.—An emergency meeting of this Lodge was held at the Sydney Arms, Lewisham, on Tuesday, 23rd ult., to nominate a Steward to assist at the Installation of the Prince of Wales as M.W.G.M., the W.M. Bro. Bear presided, supported by the following:—Bros. Hoss S.W., G. Bolton P.M. Treasurer, C. G. Dilley P.M. Secretary, Carver P.M., J. Roper, Scott, Wilson, Welstead, Watson, Smith, and several others. The Lodge was opened, and the choice of the brethren fell upon Bro. Bear, the W.M. The Lodge was then closed, and adjourned till the first Thursday in April.

Acacia Lodge, No. 1209.—A meeting of this Lodge was held on Saturday, the 20th ult., at the Prince Alfred Hotel, Southall. Bro. Chas. Horsley P.P.G.R. (Middlesex) occupied the chair, owing to the sad death of the W.M. Bro. Limpus P.G.O. (Middlesex) P.M., F. Walters P.G.S. (Middlesex) Secretary, C. Stalin P.M., C. A. Fenice S.W., C. G. Rushworth J.W., J. W. George J.D., and Bros. Wilson, Paulson, Davis, Smith, Tebb, Darcy, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. Wilson was raised to the 3rd degree, and Bros. Paulson and Davis were passed to the degree of Fellow Crafts, by Bro. Charles Horsley P.M. P.P.G.R. (Middlesex), in a solemn and painstaking manner, showing the Masonic qualifications of that talented brother. It was unanimously voted that letters of condolence should be sent to the widow of the late lamented W.M., Bro. Limpus, and also to the widow of the late respected Bro. Sillifant, the Treasurer of the Lodge. Bro. Tebb was proposed as a Steward for the Girls' School. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to slight refreshments. Bro. J. W. Baldwin W.M. 1423 was present as a visitor.

Upton Lodge, No. 1237.—An emergency meeting of this Lodge was held at the Spotted Dog, Upton, on Monday, 22nd ult., to nominate a Steward to assist the Grand Stewards at the Installation at the Albert Hall, on the 28th April. The W.M. Bro. G. Levick presided, supported by his officers, as follow:—Bros. A. Holtham S.W., J. L. Mather P.M. J.W., Posener S.D., G. Brown I.G., F. C. Kinnear W.S., P.M.'s B. Picking, G. T. English, R. W. Goddard Secretary, R. Bolton, G. Bratton I.P.M.; Webster, White, Page, Merrall, Hart, Oldroyd, Tatile, and several other brethren. The Lodge was opened, and the Secretary, Bro. Goddard P.M., read the communication from Bro. J. Hervey, Grand Secretary, relating to the installation of the Prince of Wales as M.W.G.M. It was proposed by Bro. G. Bratton P.M., and seconded by Bro. G. T. English P.M., that the W.M., Bro. Levick, be the Steward to represent this Lodge at that Festival, which was carried unanimously, and the Lodge was then closed and adjourned.

Earl of Zetland Lodge, No. 1364.—A meeting of this Lodge was held at the Old Town Hall, Mare Street, Hackney, on Saturday, 20th March. The W.M., Bro. John L. Fysh, presided, supported by his officers as follow:—Bros. Wright Treasurer, Gomperts J.D., H. F. Lowe D.C., T. H. Haskins Organist, J. G. Pockett Steward, P.M.'s W. Bristo Secretary, and L. A. Lewis; G. J. Pope, T. Fitzgerald, W. T. Morris, W. Fieldwick I.G., J. Crosbie, A. G. Challis, O. Dilmarr, H. Cooper, W. Green, A. Bissinger, F. Kearney, R. Buckler, J. S. Ashburner, J. B. Ferdinando, D. H. Feltham, B. Humphrey, F. H. Dalton. The following brethren were among the visitors, viz., Bros. F. Keene 378, G. W. Saul D.C. 1201, J. B. Shackelton 1326, W. Speth S.D. 183, J. W. Hill J.D. 1278, J. Evans 139, J. Johnson S.W. 301, E. W. Barr 1158. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Messrs. R. T. Giles, J. A. Vickers, G. Haddock, J. Tattersall, and S. T. Shuttleworth, which proved in their favour. The

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Lodge was opened in the 2nd degree, and Bros. Bissinger and Cooper answered the questions leading to the 3rd degree; the Lodge was then opened in 3rd degree, and these two brethren were raised to the M.M. degree; the Lodge resumed in 1st degree, and Bros. Anning and Mitchell were entrusted, and retired; and the Lodge having been resumed in 2nd degree Bros. Mitchell and Anning were passed to that degree; the Lodge was resumed in 1st degree, and Messrs. Giles, Vickers, Shuttleworth, and Haddock, being in attendance, were initiated into Freemasonry as E.A.P. The Lodge was then closed in due form, and adjourned till the third Saturday in April.

Gladsmuir Lodge, No. 1385, Barnet.—The members of this Lodge met at the Red Lion Hotel, Barnet, on Wednesday, 31st March, on an emergency summons. The W.M., Bro. Hayward Edwards, presided, and was supported by Bros. J. Cutbush S.W., Dr. Livingston J.W., F. Young S.D., G. Askew Secretary, and Bros. Wingham, Enerby, Yolland, Cranston, Brown, &c. The Lodge was opened to the 2nd degree. Bro. Abbott having proved his efficiency was entrusted, and retired. The Lodge was then opened in the 3rd degree, and Bro. Abbott was raised to the sublime degree by Bro. John Lowthin P.M. and W.M. 1479; the ceremony being rendered in a most impressive manner. After the discussion of several matters in connection with the Lodge, the brethren adjourned to slight refreshment, provided by Brother Fisher.

Langthorne Lodge of Instruction, No. 1421.—The brethren of this Lodge were enabled to enjoy a thorough Masonic treat on Wednesday last, the 31st ult., upon which occasion the fifteen sections were worked in the Lodge room, at the Swan Hotel, Stratford, E., the chair being occupied by Bro. Cundick, J.W. of the Lodge; Bro. T. J. Baines P.M. 554 acting as S.W.; and Bro. Land W.M. 742 as J.W. The Lodge was opened at 7 p.m., at which hour a large number of brethren had assembled to witness the excellent working of Bro. Cundick and the brethren who had undertaken to work the various sections. The Lodge having been opened, and the minutes of the former meeting read and duly confirmed, the seven sections of the first lecture were worked by the following brethren, viz.:—

1st Section	Bro.	Burdett 1293.
2nd do.	„	Mortlock P.M. 194.
3rd do.	„	Horsley 933.
4th do.	„	Coombes J.D. 554.
5th do.	„	Lattrielle P.M. 1056.
6th do.	„	Pinder 554.
7th do.	„	Austin P.M. 933.

The Lodge was opened in the second degree, and the sections of this lecture worked as under, viz.:—

1st Section	Bro.	Boulton 1056.
2nd do.	„	Walters 933.
3rd do.	„	Myers 820.
4th do.	„	Barnes P.M. 554.
5th do.	„	Pinder 554.

The Lodge was opened in the third degree, and the concluding sections worked, viz.:—

1st Section	Bro.	Berry S.W. 554.
2nd do.	„	Austin P.M. 933.
3rd do.	„	Musto 554.

The Lodge was resumed in the first degree, and a cordial vote of thanks was unanimously passed to Bro. Cundick and the brethren who had so kindly undertaken the working of the various sections, after which a number of brethren were proposed as joining members, and the Lodge was closed. It has rarely been our good fortune to witness such excellent working as that of Bro. Cundick and his friends. The able manner in which the questions were put, and the equally able manner in which they were answered by the brethren, reflected the highest credit upon all concerned. We are unable to furnish the names of the whole of the brethren who were present, the number being about fifty, but amongst them we observed the following:—Bro. Burdett, Cundick, Barnes, Land, Mortlock, Horsley, Coombes, Lattrielle, Pinder, Austin, Boulton, Walters, Myers, Barry, Musto, Robbins, Sharp, Mundy, Mason, Rivett, Taylor, Tucker, Stees W.M. Langthorne 1421, Owen (S.W. Langthorne), Ashdown (P.M. and Secretary Langthorne) Holliday, Webster, Morley, and a number of others. The brethren separated shortly before 11 p.m., highly delighted with the proceedings of the evening.

Ivy Lodge, No. 1440.—A meeting of this flourishing and rapidly-increasing Lodge was held at Bro. Flock's, the Windsor Castle Tavern, Southwark Bridge Road, B. C. Smith W.M., G. Mattock S.W., J. J. Cantle J.W., J. Nokes P.M. 87 acting P.M., E. Thurkle Treasurer, C. S. Jelly P.M. 87 Secretary, C.F. Pompard S.D., L. Cornelissen J.D., W. Ashwell I.G. The Lodge having been opened, and the minutes of the two former meetings read and confirmed, Bro. D. H. Ashford was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. Bro. G. Mattock, S.W. and W.M. elect, was then presented to the Lodge, and he was duly installed by the retiring W.M. in a very able and perfect manner. The W.M. having been saluted in ancient form, invested his officers. The newly-installed W.M. then showed his proficiency for office, by initiating Messrs. R. McCowan, Gloag, and A. H. Miller into the Order, in an impressive and perfect manner, that redounded to the credit of the Lodge. The W.M. then presented the I.P.M., Bro. Smith, in the name of the Lodge, with a very elegant P.M. jewel, and a beautifully illuminated testimonial, engrossed on vellum, framed and glazed, signed by every brother in the Lodge, as a token of esteem and regard. Bro. Smith having suitably replied, the Lodge was then closed, terminating the first session, and the brethren adjourned to Bro. Spencer's, Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge, whose catering gave great satisfaction. The W.M. proposed the usual routine toasts, including that of the visitors, among whom were Bros. C. A. Cottebrune P.G.P., J. Terry P.M. and Secretary R. M. B. Institution, Welsford P.M. 805, Lancaster P.M. 1194, Meredith P.M. 1257, Sargent P.M. 548, Frampton P.M. 142, Bond P.M. 87, Millhouse P.M. 228, Whiting P.M. 87, Watts 1446, A. K. Smith 87, Drew 749, and several others. Some excellent speeches and songs were given, and the brethren separated at an early hour.

MASONIC FAIR PLAY.

From the Scottish Freemasons' Magazine.

We have had our attention drawn by one of our reporters to the issue of a contemporary, called the *Freemason*, published in London, on the 20th March, wherein, with other matter, there is a letter under the title of "Masonic Fair Play," reports of meetings in connection with the Scotch Lodges, No. 202, St. Clements, 116, Royal Arch Lodge, and No. 177, Old Monkland St. James. The letter referred to embodies a complaint against a London Masonic paper (evidently the *Freemason's Chronicle*) of having recently published what had once formed part of a leading article in the *Freemason*. Now, the article in question was fairly enough placed in the columns of the *Freemason's Chronicle*, and the name of the paper, *Pomeroy's Democrat*, from which it was extracted was stated. If the last-named journal did not in the same way acknowledge the *Freemason*, then the blame rests with it. However, let that be as it may, what we want to direct attention to is this: In the same issue of the *Freemason* in which this letter on Fair Play appears, there also appears, *without any acknowledgement*, copies of the reports, *verbatim et literatim*, of the three Lodges above mentioned, which appeared in our issue of the 15th March. We say these reports have been cut from our magazine and reprinted by our contemporary, because they were made by our own reporter and first published by us, and also *because two slight errors in our issue have been most faithfully reproduced by our contemporary*. Now, we respect greatly both the editor and publisher of the *Freemason*, but must at the same time, in our own interests, and purely in self-defence, point out this fact to our subscribers. Had the representative here of the journal referred to acted towards us in a fair manner, even this appropriation of our contents would perhaps not receive notice. If its boast as to circulation be correct, surely it does not need to "appropriate" from our humble columns to keep up that circulation. What are we to think of a journal that, in its *leading* article, talks of "its enterprising and fraternal publisher" thus:—"His motto has been 'Auspicium melioris ævi,' and we trust that the sympathy of our great Order may yet be extended to his efforts on behalf of *literature*, and reward his zealous energy and self-sacrifice," &c. "The position of the *Freemason* is not only one of which our publisher may be proud, *as it is his own creation*," &c. Such are the preliminary remarks which our contemporary writes in its leading article, in the most self-complacent manner, and then quietly turns to the subject in hand, which happens to lie on the other side of the Atlantic. We really do marvel at the strange combination of the "leader," the "letter," and the "reports," all in one and the same copy, and cannot refrain from quoting, for the edification, we hope, of our contemporary, the author of "Hudibras:"

> "These are the great performances that raise
> Your mighty parts above all reach of praise;
> And give us only leave to admire your worth,
> For no man, but yourself, can set it forth;
> Whose wondrous power's so generally known:
> Fame is the echo, and her voice your own."

The following statement shows the receipts for traffic on the undermentioned railways for the past week, as compared with the corresponding week in 1874:—

Railway.	Miles open. 1875	Receipts. 1875 £	1874 £
Caledonian	737		
Glasgow and South Western	315½	15,573	13,948
Great Eastern	763	50,185	44,159
Great Northern	517	51,814	50,484
Great Western	1,525	98,186	99,651
Lancashire and Yorkshire	430	71,243	63,722
London and Brighton	378½	32,326	24,001
London, Chatham and Dover	153½	18,322	14,081
London and North Western	1,582½	163,532	161,727
London and South Western	—	36,477	32,417
London, Tilbury and Southend	45	1,418	1,335
Manchester and Sheffield	259½	31,012	31,000
Midland	944½	118,185	104,055
Metropolitan	8	9,030	8,619
„ „ District	8	5,036	4,332
„ „ St. John's Wood	1½	470	439
North British	839	39,840	38,605
North Eastern	1,379	125,555	118,807
North London	12	7,092	7,033
North Staffordshire Railway	190	10,883	10,055
„ „ Canal	118	1,642	1,661
South Eastern	350	35,281	29,687

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Cures Blood and Skin Diseases,
Cures Glandular Swellings,
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Printed and Published for the Freemason's Chronicle Publishing Company Limited, by Brother WILLIAM WRAY MORGAN, at 67 Barbican, E.C., Saturday, 3rd April 1875.

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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. I.—No. 15. SATURDAY, 10th APRIL 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

THE INSTALLATION OF H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES.

AS might have been foreseen, the available space in the Royal Albert Hall, considerable as it is, is quite insufficient to meet the demands of the Craft to "assist" at the installation of the M.W. Grand Master elect. It is just possible the Hall will accommodate some 8,000 or 10,000 members, but applications for over 20,000 have been made. It is as clear, then, as the old arithmetical problem, that two into one will not go, that all who have sought admission will not obtain it. The magic "Open! Sesame!" will be the cry of many. Alas! that obedience to only a few is possible! We are by no means, then, surprised at the announcement which has been current in all the daily papers during the week, that only one Master Mason per Lodge will be permitted to be present. The Masters, Wardens, and P.M.'s of over a thousand Lodges alone make up a considerable number. Add to these Grand Lodge itself, including all the Provincial and District Grand Lodges, and representatives of foreign Grand Lodges, and we have at the very outset a most formidable array of Craftsmen. It will require no small amount of managerial skill to compose these various atoms into one homogeneous body. But though operative may, in a certain sense, long since have given rise to speculative Masonry, there are still among us very many who are quite equal to the fulfilment of this onerous task. Not only will Grand Lodge be opened in ample form, but all the minor details of the ceremony will be strictly observed, so that, metaphorically speaking, not even the most insignificant part of the edifice will be inconsistent with the general structure. As we have remarked already, this installation will be a cardinal point in the history of Masonry, and the day is not far distant when it will be our duty, as it will certainly be a source of pleasure to us, to lay before our readers a full account of this most interesting event.

Of course great disappointment is felt at the restriction which the necessities of a limited space have made imperative. No modification however of this restriction is possible, and the Committee of Management are desirous this fact should be made known as widely as possible, as also that any delay in replying to the mass of letters which pour daily into the office of our devoted Grand Secretary must not be imputed to any want of courtesy, but simply to the impossibility of meeting off-hand the present extraordinary pressure of business. The wishes and convenience of every one are being consulted, as far as possible, but our readers are aware that there is a limit to the possible even in Masonry.

THE GIRLS' AND BOYS' SCHOOLS.

IT is proper we should remind our readers that the elections to the vacancies in the Girls' and Boys' Schools are fixed for to-day in the case of the former, and for Monday next, the 12th instant, in the case of the latter. There are thirteen vacancies in the Girls' School, and thirty-one candidates, while, in the Sister Institution are six vacancies, but, unhappily, the number of candidates is forty-eight. For a reason, the force of which must be apparent to our readers, we offer no opinion as to the merits of the several claimants. To do so would amount to an act of partisanship. We can only suggest that voters whose sympathies have not been already enlisted for a particular candidate or candidates, should give the case of each claimant, and all the circumstances which surround it, their most careful consideration. As the writer of a letter which appeared in these columns last week most conclusively points out, one fact or circumstance connected with the father of a boy or girl is not sufficient commendation of the case to the support of voters. The whole of his antecedents and all the circumstances must be conjoined, and then only will a voter be able to form a just idea who is or are the worthiest claimants for his support. We can only express a hope that the most deserving candidates may be chosen, and that in their future career, both at school and afterwards, those elected may prove worthy of the patronage bestowed upon them. A voter who has supported an elected candidate, feels doubly gratified when he learns that the after-progress in life of his *protégé*—or *protégée* as the case may be—has been an honourable one. A reflection—be it ever so faint—of this credit, shines upon him. On the other hand, the chosen candidate who plays his part honourably, in great measure requites the obligation he or she is under to the electors. But, though we are forbidden to speak of the claims of these or those candidates, we are justified in saying a few words as to the Institutions themselves, the excellence of their government, of the course of study pursued, and of the educational results attained.

And first—*Place aux Dames!*—as to the Girls' School. We will not weary our readers with a lengthy history of this admirable establishment, but a few facts may be of interest to them. It is not, perhaps, generally known that the merit of having originated this Masonic Institution rests with a most worthy member of our Craft of considerable eminence in his day. To the Chevalier Ruspini belongs the honour of having laboured successfully towards the establishment of an institution having for its object the maintenance and education of the daughters of indigent brethren, or such as had died in indigent circumstances. The late Bro. Ruspini was surgeon dentist to the Court of George III. He held, therefore, a position which enabled him to obtain the ear of men of commanding influence, of, in fact, the members of the Royal Family. At that time H.R.H. the Duke of Cumberland was M.W.G.M.—the first, be it remembered, of our reigning family who enjoyed that high distinction. Chevalier Ruspini besought the influence of his wife, H.R.H. the Duchess of Cumberland, and successfully. He also enlisted the sympathies of the Prince of Wales, Prince William (afterwards William IV.), and other Princes, members of the Order, who promised, not only to lend the weight of their high position, but also actively to support the claims of the indigent orphan. The scheme was as successful as it was honourable, and on 25th March 1788 was instituted the Royal Cumberland Freemasons' School, so named in honour of the wife of our then Royal and M.W. Grand Master. A house was taken at Somers Town, in the New Road, and on 1st January 1789 fifteen children were admitted into it. The School is now situated at St. John's Hill, Battersea Rise, while the number of girls is one hundred and thirty.

To enter into the details of the progress made in the course of the eighty and odd years that have passed since the Institution of this School is hardly desirable. But having spoken thus briefly of its origin, it is incumbent on us to add a few words as to the care and skill displayed in its management. The proficiency shown by the young pupils is in the highest degree creditable to those charged

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with their instruction, as is evidenced by the success of several at the various local examinations recently instituted by the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. Any one who has read the reports annually presented to the Craft, must have come to the conclusion that the finances of the School are managed as economically as they are wisely, while, as far as can be ascertained, the subsequent conduct of the children has been a credit to their instructors and the governors. That this may always be so, and that the Institution may go on increasing in usefulness, and so commend itself more and more to the active support of the Craft, is the wish of every Mason.

We must defer our remarks on the Boys' School till a more favourable opportunity presents itself.

TYPES OF MASONIC CHARACTER.

WE have often derived instruction as well as amusement from the study of the varied types of Masonic character which we have met in the course of a long and chequered experience. The study of men indeed is always valuable mental discipline, but as we advance in life it becomes a positive pleasure to note the idiosyncrasies of those around us. Books do not always retain their power to charm, and he who has been the greatest reader in his youth, frequently finds that his library is little or no solace to him in his later years. But the great book of humanity has an intense fascination for us all. He who has learned to read men gets his knowledge at first hand, and is in no need of the laboured reflections of the essayist or the feeble attempts at character sketching which abound in modern works of fiction. An elderly man, who knows his Shakspeare, and who looks about him with his own eyes, is sure to see much that is of the greatest value which escapes the vision of those who have never trained themselves in the art of reading mankind. Our Lodge meetings afford ample scope for studies of this description, and for our own part we would rather read Masons than any other section of the *genus homo*. The brethren have their little foibles like other people. We, indeed, have ours, which, no doubt, are conspicuous enough to keen sighted persons, who wag their heads, and hint that so and so is a good fellow, but he has his weak points, and then follows a summary of the joints in our harness, which are no doubt numerous enough. We never object to criticism of this kind provided it is not malicious; our own remarks in this paper, and the articles which may follow it, are prompted by the greatest good feeling. We do not seek to wound, but merely to amuse, or perhaps instruct our readers, who, possibly, may at once admit the truth of the rough and vague outlines of character which we shall sketch for them. First of all let us notice that Masonic hero who always catches a novice by the button hole and proclaims the marvellous fact, for the hundredth time, that he has been a Mason for twenty years, and has never missed a Lodge meeting. He is an admirable person; the sort of man upon whose attendance a Master of a Lodge can always rely; whatever the condition of the weather may be he is sure to turn up. His familiar face is one of the institutions, so to speak, of the Lodge. You would miss it as much as the familiar bust or picture which greets your eye the moment you enter the sacred precincts. He is versed in Masonic law this regular attendant; and carries in his mind an unbroken tradition of the Lodge history. If he were to miss a single meeting he would lose, he tells you, the thread of the business, and could not readily tell us in what portion of the records a particular fact could be found. As a walking index, and a more or less sound legal adviser he is useful, and although the cynics say that he has never done anything for the Order, we are prepared to assert that his humble contributions to Masonic prosperity are not to be despised. A man whose very presence is almost sufficient to keep the Lodge warm is at all events a negatively good Mason. He is never an absentee, he is never in arrear, he never gets out of order. Some virtues of the positive type would possibly serve to sweeten his character, but all men are not born with genius or endowed with the desire to leave the world better than they found it. Our punctilious Mason is a good fellow in his way, and we gladly leave him in quiet enjoyment of the glory which may be squeezed out of his regular habits and his deep interest in the mere letter of the Craft.

Another type of Mason, whose doings have sorely exercised us, is the man who rushes eagerly after office, but who has not talent enough to fill the post of honour with credit to himself or advantage to the Order. He is one of your dunder-headed men, and can never acquire a perfect knowledge of his duties. He breaks down lamentably in ceremonial sometimes on critical and solemn occasions. Or in moments when a brilliant flash of genius lights up his mind, and he is disposed to rush glibly along the well-beaten road, some wag puts in an "aside," and the confident hero tumbles at once from high heaven to the nether hades. He is commonly a solemn sort of person, and when he speaks you imagine that he is extracting his words from some deep internal reservoir. You scarcely see any movement of the lips, but his low grumbling tones assure you that the machinery of his mind works through the agency of an intricate arrangement of cog-wheels. With all his faults, however, we like him much better than we do those brethren who readily catch the letter of Masonry, but never acquire its spirit; whose learning is no deeper than the lips, and who pour out, parrot-like, their superficial acquirements. Such men are apt to leave a disagreeable impression on the minds of thoughtful young Masons, who leave their glibe mentors with the idea that Masonry after all is a thing of books and formulas, and not a set of principles which admit of infinite development. Further knowledge of Lodge proceedings soon, no doubt, removes this erroneous impression, but it would be better if it had never been produced. High qualifications for office are, no doubt, rare, but respectable mediocrity is, or should be, common enough, and great care should be exercised in the choice of brethren to fill prominent positions. If the officers are below par the Lodge suffers in prestige, and consequently in prosperity.

The enthusiastic Mason, whose enthusiasm is like the froth of ginger beer, is not a favourite with us. We value and appreciate enthusiasm of the true sort whenever we meet with it. It is a moral force of the most powerful and subtle kind, and those who possess it have done wonders for the cause. But our obnoxious enthusiast is all froth; there is no noble liquor under his creamy head. He takes to this or that subject as the fit seizes him, and never works long enough at any to make a lasting impression. His oratory is of the effervescent kind, and he deals naturally in well-worn platitudes, which have served again and again to give a dull point to still duller wit. He, however, rapidly reaches his climax. Some rough, but kindly brother, endowed with a strong tincture of common sense, gives him his first rebuff, and our frothy enthusiast at once sinks into a state of collapse, and disappears for a time from the scene of his labours. He now attends but seldom, and remains a dumb listener for life. Having never learned the English habit of giving and taking, he cannot feel any charity for the brother who so rudely set him down, but continues to cherish a small animosity, which is decidedly unmasonic. Of course, he would not do his supposed enemy any harm for the world. But he never applauds his sensible remarks, and votes against him on every occasion. He has had his *coup de grace*, but can neither die like a Briton, nor get thoroughly healed of the wound. His silence is, however, a decided gain to his Lodge, if he could only be brought to think so; since it is very certain that no institution has ever yet gained any permanent good from noise and froth.

The Mason who never will accept the decision of the majority, is of a type which may occasionally be met with in most Lodges. He has not learned the most elementary principles of the art of governing, and fancies that his own inclinations should constitute the only law that should control his conduct. He is the sort of man who will divide again and again upon a motion which must inevitably be carried, and he will do this as long as it is possible to couch amendments in fresh language. He loves faction, and is always sure, even when he is opposed by a host, that he must be right. The odd thing about him is that he is never, except by accident, on the side of the majority. If a wrong view of any question is possible he is sure to take it, and he consoles himself for his failure by the trite reflection, that men of genius are always in advance of the age in which they live. He plumes himself upon being a thinker, upon taking profound and philosophical views of questions which are submitted to his judgment. He is always sailing in the clouds, and he evolves his philosophy as well as his reasons from his inner consciousness. Nothing can be right that he dislikes, nothing can be

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wrong that he loves. He is always a bore, but, perhaps, for pure boredom, he is surpassed by the brother who does not possess two ideas to rattle against each other in his vacant upper story, but who insists upon taking part in every debate. This gentlemen never expresses an original opinion, and his speeches are always rehashes of the views of the speakers who have preceded him. He invariably rises late in the discussion, and then gives a masterly summary of the ideas of others. The brethren dread his monotonous drone, but he is not to be put down by any of the artifices which are usually employed by impatient hearers to cut short a prosy speaker. The drumming of impatient feet upon the floor only serves as a sweet and appropriate accompaniment to his dull flow of talk, and when he has finished he sits down with the air of a man who has added important thoughts to the stock of information before the Lodge. He, however, gives way like an Englishman to the will of the majority, and accepts its decisions with perfect loyalty. Such a man, if he knew the virtue of silence, might be a valuable addition to the strength of the Order. He is usually a good Mason, punctual in the performance of his duties, ready with his purse, and a good worker. His speeches are, however, trying in the extreme, and it is marvellous that he can find men patient enough to swallow such an "intolerable deal of sack," which is never tempered by anything solid. If he could hold his tongue he might pass for a wise man, but the unruly member tells the story of his mental vacuity, and every one votes him a bore.

Our ideal type of a Mason is the man who, although not a constant attendant at Lodge, yet contrives, by his wisdom and personal worth, to carry enormous weight in its councils. His proposals are always carried, and his speeches are charscterised by a quiet dignity and grace which gives them a peculiar charm. When he rises to address the brethren you may hear a pin drop, and he concludes his pithy orations amid general regrets that he has said so little. Yet he possesses the rare art of saying much in a few words, and has thoroughly learned how to influence the minds of thoughtful men. He never deals in flights of oratory, or in that species of bunkum which passes for eloquence, but carries his point by the aid of well arranged facts and cogent reasoning. A man of this stamp is always a pillar of the Lodge which is so fortunate as to claim him as a member. He would, probably, shine in any station in life, and is as highly respected in the city for his probity and good judgment as he is in the Order for his studious regard for the true interests of Masonry.

Lastly, we must touch briefly upon the characteristics of the Mason who is conspicuous for benevolence. Happily, this type is common enough, but we have in our mind's eye, as the most perfect embodiment of the character, the brother who seldom makes speeches, but who works silently and steadily at the task he has set himself. We shall not chronicle the long roll of his good deeds, since a man of this stamp generally does good by stealth, yet when duty calls him to a prominent place, and he becomes one of the Stewards of the annual banquet in aid of the funds of the Asylum or Schools, he is always conspicuous for the large sum which he manages to collect for the Institutions. But his goodness is never one-sided, and he always remembers that true charity begins at home. His first care is for his wife and family, his second is for the Order, and his last for the world. When such a man dies, he requires neither panegyric nor epitaph. The good he has done lives after him, and is the most fitting monument of his fame.

EAST, WEST AND SOUTH.

BY A WANDERING FREEMASON.

II.

THE scene changes with a stroke of Memory's magic wand: and as clocks strike eight, over a populous city, darkness is spreading her brooding wing. In an open space is grouped an orderly multitude of various types. There, in light-checked summer suit, lounges the observant Briton; blue-eyed Germans puff the silent pipe, Frenchmen and Italians, oiled and curled, exchange compliment or *badinage;* Mestizos, Zambos, Indians and Negroes of every shade from pale olive to shining black, lounge and strut amid the shadows which quiver under the flaring rays of the street lights. In front, the façade of a venerable Church rears two towers into a starlit sky; on the pavement before it under festoons of coloured lamps, the restless crowd shifts to and fro. To the right, loom overhanging balconies from massive walls; on the left, an arch spanning over the street reveals a glimpse of the old bridge beyond. Groups of laced and moustachiod officers stand here and there, admiring and saluting many a Señora whose flowing skirts and seductive mantilla float daintily by. Their arch glances and restless fans display the practised wiles of native coquetry and grace: with those flashing eyes and rich braided tresses, not even the *houris* of the Musulman could hope to vie.

The crowd parts suddenly near the bridge, and through the throng of gazers the night patrol in long array, dash sparks from under sounding hoofs; the black cloaks thrown back show the steel breast-plates and crimson linings. As their plumes of red and white dance away in the distance, the crowd closes behind them. Hark! soaring gently upward, a tremulous music steals upon the ear, rising and falling as with a rustling breeze and fluttering as from a host of angels' wings; now it rises in continuous symphony, winding round and round, anon ascending as on a graduated scale. Every other sound is hushed amid the thousands listening round Draw back! The strain is ended; while its dying cadence yet quivers in the still night air, rises clashing and resounding from cymbal and cornet a martial inspiring strain. Waking as from trance, eyes that had been veiled in mute attention glance startled up, hand and foot beat involuntary time to the reverberating tune. Next, to measured tramp, with standards waving over bayonets and shakos it moves loudly along. The band has passed and the white uniforms of the following battalion glide out of view; every heart beats high and every hand is clenched as the pavement trembles beneath their echoing tread. Then, coming from the other side, threading through the attentive crowd their even way, to the sound of the anthem caught up and continued by band after band, marches another regiment, and another, and another. As the sounds go ringing in the distance, the dark horseman in slouching hat and poncho inclines over the main of his motionless steed, the Padre on his fine sleek mule clutches tightly at the rein and listens with suspended breath; losing for brief moments present consciousness of worldly cares, until waking as from a reverie of heaven and truth, they realise that, like visions on a mirror, it has passed away.

Such were the impressions made by a scene which now, after varied experiences, might seem trite and tame. Something must be allowed for the enthusiasm of youth and the full zest of active health; something for the charm of novelty; something for an ardent imagination and a sudden plunge into luxury, pleasure and excitement, which threw over all a halo of romance and made the months I spent in *Lima* among the happiest of my life.

Arrived at the age of twenty-one, I had that day been raised a Master Mason in the Duke of Leinster's Lodge (No. 151 under the Irish Constitution), emerging at about 5 p.m. in rather a dazed condition from its solemn ordeal. Fortified with a dinner which only those cities can afford where excellent French cooks beatify native terrapin and venison, where *vino del pais* emulates the best Sauterne, where fragrant Huanuco Coffee is accompanied by the cigarillo, and the chasse of "Italia" by the new "puro" (not dried up as we get it in Europe), I had strolled out to listen to the military music which soothed the Limenians twice a week by the Palace stairs. The native ear and taste carefully trained by German bandmasters, made these concerts not to be despised; combined with the chance of greeting pleasant acquaintances, perhaps of exchanging whispers with some fair inamorata, they were a treat looked forward to. But how can I describe the tranquil languor of the temperate yet tropical evening, the weird nooks and shadows beyond the fairy glimmer of coloured lamps, the fragrant air at the foot of the Andes; which aided the insidious swell of melody to steep the senses in delicious appreciation, like the

"languido encanto del ruido del mar"

that Zorilla sings of.

O'Scarum, a brother from the Lodge, accompanied me. We traversed the *Plaza de Armas*, noting the illumination of the Cathedral and the Colonnades over the marble

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movements (for it was a *Dia de Fiesta*), and pressing through the gaily-dressed citizens, arrived at Morny's Hotel.

The large Coffee room of a good Hotel in the West hardly has a prototype, that I know of, in Europe. Morny's somewhat resembled a club-room. It was the resort of the upper stratum of the foreign element and a rendezvous of various leading politicians of a literary turn. Decorated with taste, in scrupulous order, dotted with marble tables [illegible] columns of scagliola, with a handsome entrance [illegible] tempting bar, its aspect was pleasing in the extreme. [illegible] acquaintance with O'Scarum originated in this [illegible]. I was at luncheon in the ward-room of H.M. fine [illegible] "Tonage," one morning in Callao Bay, when a party [illegible] came on board to be shown over the vessel. A buxom elderly lady, whose ears, wrists and bosom scintillated [illegible] diamonds, followed by a lovely Limenian, her daughter. [illegible] was the companion, and I naturally stepped forward [illegible] help them alight. "That's right, me boy, you marry the [illegible] lady and leave me the old one, she's worth two [illegible] of Dollars," exclaimed a rich bass voice as the speaker in flaming uniform of the Artillery (the crack corps of the Republic), descended after them. He was a very handsome man; Apollo with glossy black moustache, dressed in white, crimson and gold. An introduction from the naval officer, their *cicerone*, ensued—"Major Harum O'Scarum, of the Peruvian Artillery." He spoke Spanish decently, but was evidently English in the Irish sense of the word. I met him at the Lodge afterwards, and often admired his ready wit and calm audacity. He was, of course, a great favourite with the amiable and gay Limenians, seemed well educated, but was imprudent and voluble in speech. Talking of the British army one day, I was surprised at the bitterness with which he spoke of the conditions of its service and of the hardships inflicted on the rank and file. The key to this I found afterwards, when he openly confessed to having served as non-commissional officer in India, leaving his desertion to be inferred.

On the evening I now treat of, I was curious enough to improve the occasion and find out how he attained to his present position. As to his earlier adventures he was reticent, but outspoken as to his career after promotion to Leiutenant. "I was made Captain," said he, "in the little affair of General Burlon, who revolted with the army of the South, from the Presidency of General Palangana. Palangana started with the army of the North to encounter Burlon; after a series of masterly strategic movements he got hemmed up in a defile from which he could only escape at night by dismounting his cavalry. This was the cause of the only bloodshed during the campaign, when 3,000 horses were the unfortunate victims. Orders were thereupon transmitted to Fulano the Vice President, to hasten to the rescue with the garrison of Lima and all the reinforcements he could muster. Fulano had never seen a battle-field, and this requisition fired him with unwonted ardour: he placarded all the blank walls with proclamations, paraded his Levies in the Grand Square, and standing in the largest jack-boots I ever saw, made a heroic speech. I was subaltern in the army with which he marched out of the capital. We effected a junction with Palangana, who was still pursuing his complicated strategic movements upon the most scientific principles. After about six weeks the hostile armies came unexpectedly face to face on either side of a small river near Capablanca, and an engagement appeared imminent."

"The near approach of battle caused excitement, preparation and numerous orders from head quarters. But in the morning, great was our consternation to find that Palangana and Fulano, patriotically averse to witnessing the slaughter of their fellow-citizens, had disappeared. Hurried councils were held among the various responsible officers, and insubordination was rapidly spreading through the ranks; when a deputation under a flag of truce was announced from the insurgents. It seems that during the night, the Chiefs Burlon and Sotano, overcome by humane sensibilities similar to those of our own commander, had bolted also, leaving their subordinates no option but to surrender, stipulating for return to their various garrisons with the honours of war. This was conceded, general fraternisation and speechifying ensued and we joyfully retraced our steps to Lima, there to lay our laurels at the feet of the Cortes and await the next turn of events."

"Palangana meantime, with anguish in his soul and a careful disguise upon his person, had taken refuge on board a coaster bound to Callao; whence he intended to communicate with his family, prepare them for inevitable exile and save as much as possible of his fortune from confiscation by Burlon. A courier, however, announcing our victory, arrived a day before him; surprised by this agreeable news he discarded his disguise and entered the capital triumphant, with the honours and acclamations due to a victorious strategist, the saviour of his country. Promotions showered thickly on our return and I got my Captaincy."

"My present rank," continued the Major, "was not obtained so pleasantly, and Fortune had nearly deprived you of the chance of my valuable acquaintance. Palangana became very unpopular, and Chiripa, Governor of the Mining Districts, a great favourite with the Army, was plotting to upset him. I, amongst others, was induced to join the conspiracy, and our plans were being carefully laid for a charming Pronunciamiento; when the plot was discovered and the bubble burst. Some scores of us were marched pinioned to Callao and thrown into the dungeons of the Castle. The Cortes expressed the utmost abhorrence at our nefarious design and urged our condemnation without the form of court martial. It is true, Palangana planted my own battery right in front of the Hall of Congress, to stimulate their loyal indignation. He signed the Decree, which was read to us one Friday morning at noon and gave us twenty-four hours to prepare for death. That evening, the door of my cell opened to admit two aged Sisters of Mercy duly provided with rosaries and breviaries, precursors no doubt of the Prison Chaplain who would follow. The warder gone, one of these charitable creatures struggled in her ample garments with most unlady-like contortions and presented me with a revolver, saying *Rush out when you hear the Vesper bell.* They hurriedly departed leaving my door open, and entered the other cells, which the confederate warder opened. At about seven the Vespers sounded and out I dashed with the rest. The guards were mostly with us, we had but one struggle before the quarters of the Commandant, and the Castle was our own. The populace surged out armed, crying *Viva Chiripa*, niggers took pot-shots at nothing particular round the corners of the streets; the next day we marched to Lima, Palangana vanished, we were hailed by the Cortes as deliverers, and I got my Majority."

"I don't feel quite easy as to what's on the cards next, but I'm bound to be a General during the next five years."

Our chocolate was finished by this time, and over a parting brandy and soda I cordially wished O'Scarum his merited advancement, through as bloodless revolutions as possible. Said he, like Prim—

"O la Caja,
O la Faja!"

Either a Coffin or a Marshal's Sash!

WALTER SPENCER.

GREAT QUEEN STREET.

THIS locality is so intimately associated in the minds of every Mason with the Order to which he belongs, that little, if any, apology is needed for saying a few words as to its history. Most of our readers, doubtless, are aware that a book entitled *Old and New London*, one of those serial publications for which the firm of Cassell, Petter and Galpin so eminently deserves the thanks of the public, has been in course of issue month by month for more than two years. It is to this month's number of this valuable work that we are indebted for most of the following particulars.

Great Queen Street was so named in honour of Queen Elizabeth, and occupies the site of the footpath, which anciently separated the south part of the fields between Drury Lane and Lincoln's Inn, or Aldersgate Close, from the northern division—later known as White Hart Close—which extended to Holborn. In Elizabeth's reign the footpath had already become a roadway, but even as late as 1593 no houses were built upon it, none appearing in Norden's Map of Westminster of that date. In Speed's map, however, it appears the commencement of the Street is indicated. But building, at first, went on slowly. In 1623 there were only 15 houses on the south side, which was then open to the country, while the north side is of later date. At one time it was called Henrietta Street, in compliment to Henrietta Maria, Queen of Charles I. After the Reformation, a new era of building set in, and the houses on the south side

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were finished from, it is said, the designs of Inigo Jones and his pupil Webbe. According to an authority quoted by the author of "Haunted London," we are told, "Inigo Jones built Queen Street, at the cost of the Jesuits, designing it for a Square, and leaving in the middle, a niche for the Statue of Queen Henrietta. 'The stately and magnificent houses' begun on the north side, near Little Queen Street, were not continued. There were fleurs-de-luce placed on the walls in honour of the Queen." In the time of the Stuarts it was, according to Leigh Hunt, "one of the grandest and most fashionable parts of the town. The famous Lord Herbert of Cherbury died there. Lord Bristol had a house in it, as also did Lord Chancellor Finch, and the Conway and Paulet families." Mr. Parton tells us in his "History of St. Giles," "the appropriation of each house to its respective inhabitant is, however, a matter of uncertainty, no clue whatever being to be found among our parish records, nor, indeed, any mention made of them to guide our inquiries." Evelyn speaks of George Digby, second Earl of Bristol, as having lived in the Street, and among other occupants are included the Duke of Buckingham and the Earl of Lauderdale—two of the five members of the celebrated "Cabal" ministry—Waller the poet, Colonel Titus, author of "Killing no Murder," which so disturbed the stout heart of Cromwell. The Earl of Rochford lived in it in 1733, and about the same time Lady Dinely Goodyer and Mrs. Kitty Clive, the actress. Sir Martin Ffolkes, the first President of the Royal Society of Antiquaries, was born in it in 1690. The Gordon riots in 1780 may be said to have had their rise here, the first meeting in support of Lord George Gordon's petition to Parliament having been held in Coachmakers' Hall on 29th May of that year. On 6th June the house of Mr. Justice Cox in Great Queen-street was burnt by the mob. No. 51 is now the office of Messrs. Kelly and Co. the well-known printers and publishers of the London Directory. At No. 52 lived Sir Robert Strange, the eminent historical engraver and adherent of the young pretender, and here he died in 1792. John Opie, the Academician, also resided here, as did James Hoole, the translator of Tasso, at No. 56, where he died 1813; Sheridan, and Worlidge, an artist of ability. On 1st May 1775, the foundation stone of Freemasons' Hall—the first money expended on which was raised by a Tontine—was laid by the Grand Master, Lord Petre, the Architect being Thomas Sandby, one of the original members of the Royal Academy. On a plate deposited within the foundation stone is the following inscription.—See Smith's *Use and Abuse of Freemasonry*, or Preston's *Illustrations of Masonry*.

ANNO REGNI GEORGII TERTII QUINDECIMO,
SALUTIS HUMANÆ MDCCLXXV. MENSIS MAII DIE PRIMO.
HUNC PRIMUM LAPIDEM
AULÆ LATOMORUM
(ANGLICE, FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS)
POSUIT
HONORATISSIMUS ROB. EDV. DOM. PETRE, BARO PETRE DE WRITTLE,
SUMMUS LATOMORUM ANGLIÆ MAGISTER;
ASSIDENTIBUS
VIRO ORNATISSIMO, ROWLANDO HOLT, ARMIGERO,
SUMMI MAGISTRI DEPUTATO;
VIRIS ORNATISSIMIS JOH. HATCH ET HEN. DAGGE
SUMMIS GUBERNATORIBUS;
PLENOQUE CORAM FRATRUM CONCURSU.
QUO ETIAM TEMPORE REGUM, PRINCIPUMQUE
FAVORE STUDIOQUE SUSTENTATUM MAXIMOS
PER EUROPAM HONORES OCCUPAVERAT
NOMEN LATOMORUM.
CUI INSUPER NOMINI SUMMUM ANGLIÆ CONVENTUM
PLENISSIME FECERAT UNIVERSA FRATRUM PER ORBEM
MULTITUDO.
E CŒLO DESCENDIT
Gnôthi Seauton.
THO. SANDBY, ARM. ARCHITECTURÆ PROF. R.A.
ARCHITECTUS.

On the 23rd May of the following year, this Hall was dedicated by the same Grand Master, Lord Petre, in the presence of a vast concourse of brethren. Freemasons' Tavern, known for the number and importance of the public meetings held within it, was built in 1786, by William Tyler. Considerable alterations and enlargements have been made since this period, but into these we need hardly enter. On or near the spot now occupied by the Wesleyan Chapel, east of the Tavern, David Garrick was married, by his friend the celebrated Dr. Franklin, to "Eva Maria Violette, of St. James's, Westminster, a celebrated dancer." Among theatrical celebrities living in this street, may be mentioned Miss Pope and Lewis the comedian, while at No. 74, now part of Messrs. Wyman and Sons Printing Office, died, in 1826, Edward Prescott Holdway Knight, the comedian, commonly called "Little Knight." About this time, at Messrs. Wyman's establishment (then Messrs. Cox and Co.'s), Leman Blanchard was a printer's reader, working side by side with Douglas Jerrold the Editor of *La Belle Assemblée*. The press at which Franklin worked, as a journeyman pressman, in London, in the years 1723-6, formerly stood in Messrs. Wyman's office for many years. It is now in America, having first passed into the hands of Messrs. Harrild and Sons, who parted with it to a Mr. J. V. Murray of New York, on condition that he would secure for them in return a donation to the Printers' Pension Society of London. The condition was so liberally fulfilled that the Committee of the Printers' Pension Society were able to initiate the "Franklin Pension," worth ten guineas per annum. At Messrs. Wyman's was done all the printing relating to our possessions in the East, for the East India Company.

Thus much as regards the past history of this thoroughfare, in which are situated the Hall of the Grand Lodge of England, and the Head Quarters of our various Masonic Charities.

CAGLIOSTRO.

APROPOS of a recent article of ours, a frequent correspondent has forwarded the following translation of part of a correspondence between the rank impostor Cagliostro, as Grand Master of the Egyptian Rite, and the Lodge of Triumphant Wisdom, at Lyons, constituted by him, of the one part, and the Fraternal Convention, summoned at Paris 15th February 1785 by the Philaletheans, of the other. The whole correspondence is, as we are aware, far too long to be reproduced in these columns. We give, therefore, only the letters written by Cagliostro himself and the Lodge of Triumphant Wisdom. Those of our readers who are curious as to the history of this man will find the original in *Acta Latomorum*, Vol. II., pp. 92-127.

MANIFESTO OF CAGLIOSTRO, 1st OF THE YEAR 5555.
(1st MARCH 1785).

The unknown Grand Master of the true Freemasonry hath turned his regards on the Philaletheans, and the two invitations they have issued amongst the body of their Craft. Touched with their piety, profoundly moved by the sincere avowal of their wishes, he deigns to extend the hand of fellowship towards them, and is prepared to shed a ray of light on the darkness of their Temple. The existence of an only God, who forms the groundwork of their faith, the native dignity of man, his power and his destiny,—in a word, everything which they believe, the unknown Grand Master is willing to make manifest to them. It will be by acts and deeds, and the evidence of their senses, that they will know God, man, and the spiritual intermediaries created between the one and the other—a knowledge, of which the true Masonry offers the symbols, and to the attainment of which it indicates the path. Let, then, the Philaletheans embrace the dogmas of this true Masonry; let them submit themselves to the guidance of its supreme chief, and adopt its constitutions. But first, the sanctuary must be purified, and the Philaletheans must learn that light can descend only into the Temple of Faith, not into the Temple of Doubt. Let them devote to the flames that useless mass of archives they have accumulated. It is only on the ruins of the tower of shame that the Temple of Truth will arise.

LETTER FROM THE LODGE OF TRIUMPHANT WISDOM,
DATED 6TH APRIL 1785.

To the glory of the Great God. In the name and by the power of the Grand Master of the Order. The Lodge of Triumphant Wisdom, Mother-Lodge of the Egyptian Rite, Orient of Lyons, to the Lodge of United Friends, Orient of Paris, greeting, strength, and happiness.

Very dear Brethren,—There are Masons, on whom you have never cast your eyes, whose fraternal voice dares to say to you, "Search no more." We have seen unchangeable truth seated amidst the ruins of doubt and of systems. You will see it, very dear Brethren, descend into your Lodge the instant you abandon to the fool who builds on the sand those numerous materials which possess no value, except in the motive which induced you to collect them. Ah! happy Philaletheans, bless the day you attracted the kindly notice of our Master, when he addressed to you the words of joy and comfort contained in the writing herewith we send you in his behalf. His goodness opens to you the road that leads to knowledge. To-day men full of hopes and desires; to-morrow you will have become men of knowledge, and satisfied. Do you, dear Brethren, conform to the rules which the unknown chief of the true Masonry has ordained for

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us. Send us deputies clothed with sufficient powers, and we shall hasten to fulfil the wishes of our Master, in giving them the instruction you need, supported by such real and obvious proofs as he deigns to offer. May we soon see you in our fraternal arms, which are open to embrace you! We shall feel a livelier enjoyment of our happiness if it is permitted us to share it with you. Such are the feelings and wishes, very dear Brethren, of your affectionate Brothers. (Signed) *St. Costart*, Vénérable; *Magneval*, substitut du Vénérable; *Bessière*, Grand-Inspecteur, &c., &c.

LETTER ADDRESSED BY CAGLIOSTRO AND THE MEMBERS OF HIS COUNCIL TO THE CONVENTION, 13TH APRIL 1785.

In the name and to the glory of the Eternal. We have offered you the truth, and you have scorned it. We have offered it of our pure love for it, and you have rejected it from a love for forms. But of what avail are forms which have no basis to rest upon? Can you raise yourselves to God and a knowledge of yourselves by the means of a Secretary and a Convention? Is a Secretary neglectful of his duty—do days and days elapse, when the heart is filled with a pure and earnest longing after truth? Justify not yourselves, for we are not offended. If, for the purpose of raising you up, we have sent you back in the presence of our subjects, then bethink you how—if you will not raise yourselves—will you come to us. We give, and you would prescribe to us how and to whom we must give. You would guide us in the path in which you have not yet made the first step. See, too, how your proceedings are embarrassed. You take six weeks to reply to our plain and simple proposals, while we need a single day only to reply to the labour of six weeks. We withdraw, then, our offers, and thus perish all those scruples and doubts which your forms inspire in you. Think of the slight glimmering of light which you have seen, and may the Great God, in whose name we work, set straight your labours, and preside over your counsels! Given at the Orient of Paris, this 13th day of the 2nd month of the year 5555. Signed with the hieroglyph of *Cagliostro*; *Montmorency*, Prince de Luxembourg, Grand-Maitre Protecteur; *Laborde*, Grand-Inspecteur; *Sainte-James*, Grand-Chancelier; *De Vismes*, Grand-Secrétaire.

LETTER OF CAGLIOSTRO TO THE CONVENTION OF PARIS, 28TH APRIL, 1785.

Why yield to your interpretation of unchangeable words? We have been willing to give, and in giving we have prescribed conditions. Think you these conditions are mere whims of the moment? Have we not made subordinate to their literal execution the hopes you have latterly received from our lips. Those conditions are the utter destruction of a vast accumulation of archives. If you have none, then it is not to you we would exhibit proofs. Know that we labour not for one man, but for all mankind; that we would root out error, not from one only, but from all; and that this alliance is formed, not against one isolated deceit only, but against the whole arsenal of lies. It is a whole body of men which has asked for light. This body has certain archives, which it has made the subject of debate between it and those who have accepted its project. It is these lying archives we have set a price upon. It is throughout the whole of this body that we have excited a desire for truth; but such has been the fate of the fraternal letter from our children of Lyons, accompanied by the expression of our behests, that this packet, addressed in accordance with the directions of the Philaletheans, in a doubtful style, has found many to receive it, but no one to reply to it. And that because a subtle difference of opinion exists among you as to the preservation of the archives, so that those who have them in their keeping hesitate over our offers, and those who appear before us hesitate as to the archives. What then? Those who have collected around this monument of folly cannot re-unite themselves about the pillar of wisdom. Well! If there is not among you a body which unites the wish to avail itself of our proposals to the power to fulfil the conditions we impose, settle your own differences. We are not come to reconcile you, and look upon you as *Amis-Réunis*, of I know not what class, and as part of I know not what convocation; and if you separate yourselves, you delegates of a portion of such assembly, bear in mind that the hopes we have held out to you, and which we hold out to all reputable persons, is to be admitted after apprenticeship, according to our ritual and the delays prescribed by it, into the Mother Lodge, founded by us, and not a promise to make known, without apprenticeship, those proofs we have offered to, and marked out for, the representatives of a body, whose duty it is to offer up, as a sacrifice to truth and humanity, its worthless accumulation of archives. If we are not understood in the simplicity of our conditions, how shall we be understood in the fulfilment of our pledges? We abandon, then, a work dear to our heart; and if the Great God deigns to pardon a society of men which refuses His light, may He blot out from your memory the recollection of our offers, and its own folly!

LETTER FROM THE LODGE OF TRIUMPHANT WISDOM TO THE CONVENTION OF PARIS, 29TH APRIL 1785.

To the Glory of God, &c.—Very dear brethren, what, in the eyes of wisdom are the vain formalities of custom? The Convention hath issued circulars of invitation. The Council of Philaletheans have convoked you. The Philaletheans looked for the aid of divine Providence which is more powerful than the preparations of human power. That confidence did them honour and Providence has crowned their expectations, for the voice of truth is come among them. But in falling on their ears it hath re-echoed to yours, for they had associated you with themselves in this happiness. But you have not listened to that voice, and because the truth has not descended into your midst, you have refused to make one single step in order to ascend to it. You ask us to communicate our light, as if we had not offered to do so. You will have it communicated in your own fashion, as if the true doctrine excluded regulations, good faith, and prudence. You ask us preliminary questions, while we have been willing to prove to you by the irrefragable evidence of the senses that we are thoroughly imbued with knowledge. You call us back into the porch of the temple, while we have spoken to you of the inmost centre of the sanctuary. Thus, then, you prefer words to deeds, the uncertainty of disputations to the certainty of facts. Unhappy state of human nature! Our very knowledge misleads us. This Council of the Philaletheans is only willing to be indebted to its labours for what it could obtain from the first advances of the Philaletheans. Sad and painful feelings will henceforth take the place of those delightful sentiments to which our hearts had already delivered themselves. We shall never pour into the bosom of our brothers those consoling rays of light which are the charm and happines of our days. Truth in giving to us the power of enlightening from his torch him who seeks and values it, does not allow us to flash it in the eyes of him who neglects or rejects it. We remain, very dear brethren, your very affectionate brothers, &c.

Orient of Lyons the 29th day of the second month of the year 5555.

Your letter only reached us on the 24th.

LETTER FROM CAGLIOSTRO TO THE CONVENTION OF PARIS, THE 30TH APRIL 1785.

To the glory of the great God.—Why is the lie always on the lips of your deputies, whilst doubt is constantly in your hearts. Excuse not yourselves. I have already written to you, you have given me no offence. God alone can decide between you and me. You say you are in search of truth. I offered it to you, and you have rejected it with scorn. Since you prefer a mass of books and silly manuscripts to the happiness I destined for you, and which it is your duty to share with the elect; since you are without faith in the promises of God or his ministers on earth, I abandon you to yourselves, and I tell you in simple truth it is no longer my mission to instruct you. Miserable Philaletheans, you sow in vain, for you will only reap tares!

Our correspondent adds:—

I do not feel myself competent to offer any opinion as to the authenticity of the correspondence of which these letters form part. In the edition I have of *Acta Latomorum* of the year 1815, it is described as *Une Correspondance inédite de Cagliostro*. Some of your readers, perhaps, may have something to say on this question. But undoubtedly they are interesting and, if authentic, contain evidence that Cagliostro was one of the greatest imposters that, to use your own words, "ever left a mark upon the world's chronicles."

SONG.

ON THE INSTALLATION OF H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES AS M.W. GRAND MASTER OF ENGLAND.

BY BRO. DR. J. E. CARPENTER, P.M. 284 AND 1196.

I.

Ye Brethren of the mystic rite,
To greet your Royal Prince prepare,
The word is passed, the sign is right,
Behold! he fills the ancient Chair!
The Chair the wisest King of old—
Great Solomon—once deigned to fill,
Our grand construction to unfold,
Called by the universal will.

II.

Again, as in the days of yore,
The Widow's Son our work designs;
His skill the Temple raised before,
We follow, working on his lines.
True to our old Masonic fame,
Long may our lofty columns stand,
Graced by our Albert Edward's name,
Made firmer by his ruling hand!

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REVIEWS.

All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, 67 Barbican, E.C.

—:o:—

Here and There among the Alps.—By the Hon. Frederica Plunket. London: Longmans, Green and Co., 1875.

THIS is a pleasantly written narrative of a ramble by two ladies among the Alps, not rivalling, of course, in interest, the thrilling accounts we often read of Alpine climbing; such, for instance, as ascents of Mont Blanc, the Matterhorn, and other of the very loftiest peaks; but showing what ladies, possessing the requisite energy and nerve, may accomplish between the two extremes of laborious audacity, on the one hand, and the stereotyped progress with which the ordinary tourist is generally contented, on the other. Having engaged a good guide, and having provided themselves with all the necessary equipments for their journey, the Hon. Frederica Plunket and her sister set out on their tour of exploration, and, in the course of their wanderings, they contrived to see and do a great deal more than nine-tenths of the visitors to these delightful regions have even the courage to attempt. They ascended the Matterberg and the Tschingal Pass, the Diorolegga Pass and Piz Morteratsch, the Monte Confinorle and the Stelvio Pass, the Itochnarry, the Pfandelscharte, and other peaks and passes too numerous to mention. They occasionally experienced some disappointments, which they bore with unfailing good temper, and some difficulties, which they surmounted with a zeal and energy that would have done credit to more seasoned mountaineers. Ascents of 8,000 and 10,000 feet, were accomplished without the slightest hesitation, and the slight *contretemps* the travellers met with in some places were made the subject of merriment. Rough and ready fare, scant accommodation and the like, were of no account whatever. How they fared may be judged from the following brief sketch, at p. 23:—

"Taken separately, the component parts of our luncheon would not sound inviting. A rather hard knapsack for a seat, snow for a footstool, and, for food, some very dry bread and an antiquated chicken, a good deal burned, whose limbs had to be torn asunder by main force, and whose flesh was about of the consistency of Swiss carved wood. These delicacies were washed down with some wine and snow, and the meal was complete; but the sauce which accompanied it, giving relish to the whole, was not prepared by human hands, is indescribable, and can only be tasted and enjoyed by those who have earned it with a hard morning's work on the Upper Alps."

The travellers had a great desire to ascend Piz Morteratsch, but experienced some difficulty at first in finding the needful guide. The first called in gave his opinion that it was unfit for ladies. The snow was "so frightfully soft," "No lady could stand the fatigue of it," "Even the strongest men cannot lead for more than a quarter of an hour at a time, but have to go to the back to rest." Nothing daunted, however, they called in one Christian Grass, who, like doctors, "gave quite a different opinion from that of his fellow-practitioner." "No difficulty on the *snow*," said he, but the rocks were steep. So the ascent was accomplished without any serious difficulty. "It is, however," adds the author, "not an expedition to be recommended to ladies, unless they are used to mountain work, and have steady heads, in which case it is a very pleasant piece of climbing, and the snowy summit affords a magnificent view." A climb of over 12,000 feet and by ladies whom we usually designate as the weaker sex! But some gentlemen found on the summit appear to have got through their task with less ease and comfort—true they were not Englishmen. Says the author: "they did not seem to have liked the ascent much, and sighed a good deal over the recollection of its fatigues. One of them informed me, in a melancholy voice, that he weighed 200 pounds. Not being up in Swiss weights, this presented no definite idea to my mind, so, not knowing exactly what to say, I put on a face which I meant to be expressive of sympathy, but I afterwards remembered that I had on a linen mask at the time, and that it must, unfortunately, have been lost upon him completely."

The author thinks the Engadine over-praised.

"A fortnight spent in the Engadine did not much alter the first impression it had made upon us. We still thought its scenery over-praised, and its climate unpleasant. The air there certainly is peculiarly light and bracing; but it is not very agreeable to be frozen every morning, baked at noon, and perished at night, nor to rise, as we did one morning in August and find a white world all round. Then the situation of Pontresina, though by far the best in that district, still appeared to me rather badly chosen, for though close to the Bernina chain, it is so placed that scarcely any of the most beautiful peaks are visible from it. As a centre for excursions it has, no doubt, great advantages, and to those who can walk well enough to penetrate into the recesses of the magnificent chain at whose base it lies, it is a most attractive spot."

However, if the scenery was not what they expected, they seem to have been agreeably disappointed in other respects. They had heard, for instance, a great deal about the incivility of the inhabitants, but "certainly at Samaden and Pontresina we found every one with whom we came in contact very obliging and friendly." "The prices, too, far from being exorbitant, as we had been led to expect, were, we thought, very moderate." The food, if not recherché, was wholesome. In short, rumour, as far as their experience went, proved false in regard to this as to many other matters.

The book, we repeat, is pleasantly written, and ladies who may contemplate a tour among the Alps this summer, and are not afraid of roughing it a little, may read with advantage the record of the Hon. Fredrica Plunket and her sister's experiences, especially in the matter of equipment and guides.

CORRESPONDENCE.

All Letters must bear the name and address of the Writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.
We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.
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FREEMASONRY NINETY YEARS AGO.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR,—A few days ago I was looking over a bundle of waste paper and old books, and after I had cleared away a lot of rubbish, only fit for the fishmonger to wrap his herrings in, I came across a "backless book," purporting to give an account of the life of Joseph Emperor of Austria. After perusing several pages, my attention was fixed upon the copy of a curious document referring to Freemasonry in that country in the year 1783. In these days of Popish prohibition and Princely recognition of the Craft, the contents of the page before me had special interest. It was only a few days previously that I had read your comments on the splendour which is likely to accompany the Installation of the Prince of Wales as Grand Master of England, and I could not help picturing to myself the great contrast between the Emperor Joseph and the present heir to the throne of England. Thinking that the proclamation to which I refer will be of interest to the Masonic body, about to be still closer allied to royalty, I have pleasure in forwarding you a copy of it. It reads as follows:—

"Whereas, in all well regulated States, nothing should, within a certain description, be permitted to subsist, without being confined to some particular rule and order, I have thought it necessary to enjoin what follows:—

"The assemblies of men called Freemasons, of whose secret I am as completely ignorant, as I have at all times been adverse to inquire into their mysteries, are daily increasing even in the smallest towns. Such meetings, left entirely to the discretion of their members, and subject to no kind of direction, may occasion many excesses, equally injurious to religion and good morals; as also induce the superiors, in consequence of a fanatical fellowship, to deviate from the strict path of rectitude, in regard to those who are their dependents, but not initiated into the mysteries of their Order; and, in fine, occasion great and needless expenses. Already have other powers forbidden all such assemblies, already have the members been brought to exemplary punishments, because their secrets were not universally known. Although I am myself very imperfectly in the confidence, it is enough for me to know that some good and benevolent acts have been performed by the Masonic Lodges, to provide in their favour better than has been done in other countries; therefore, although I am a stranger to their constitution, and to what is transacted at their meetings, these shall, nevertheless, be countenanced, under the patronage of the State, as long as they shall do good; therefore, the Freemasons shall enjoy a formal toleration, upon their submitting to such regulations as shall be prescribed by me."

The writer of the book comments upon the above proclamation as follows:—"This fulmination against a social and charitable institution, of the nature of which the Emperor professed he knew nothing, gave little trouble to the Brothers of the mystic Order in the Austrian dominions, and their Lodges continued to be held as if no such edict had appeared. In Bavaria, however, the case was very different; for the Elector there put down all the Lodges without reserve, and not only compelled every member of the Fraternity to confess his being such, but to renounce the Order upon oath, on penalty of fine or imprisonment. One motive for these denunciations of a harmless institution was the hatred which the Elector, and his friend the Emperor, had conceived towards Frederick the Great, who patronised Freemasonry, and was the terror of his neighbours."

The same book gives a brief account of a visit, by Prince William Henry, to Plymouth, in the year 1786. During his stay in that town His Royal Highness "became a member of the society of Freemasons; being initiated in due form in the Lodge, number 86, then held at the Prince George Inn, in that town."

I remain, yours respectfully,
WM. H. HATTON.

Stalybridge Reporter Office, 3rd April 1875.

HONOUR ITS OWN REWARD.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The fact of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales having been elected M.W.G.M. and the approaching installation about to take place on the 28th instant has been productive of a vast amount of good to the Craft. Many of our brethren, who had been content to be classed as brother Masons, now regret they had not attended Lodges of Instruction to render themselves eligible to fill the offices of Wardens, and ultimately reach the summit of ambition—the Master's chair. The same applies to the distinctive badges worn on the breast. The Master's Jewel is presented for efficient working, but the Charity Jewel is paid for by the wearer, with pride and satisfaction, under the knowledge that he is fairly entitled to it, from having done good service to the Charities. If the brethren will look to the columns of your valuable paper they will there see how eager members are in every Lodge to send a Steward to these three Charities, clearly showing that the brethren, on their initiation, do not forget the first principle on which our Order is founded, viz.: Charity. Great credit is due to those young Masons who have represented the Charities; they may look back, in after years, and see the good they have done for the aged and the orphans. The seeds of charity, once implanted, can never be eradicated, and other charities will be equally benefitted by their exertions.

I am, yours fraternally,
A PAST MASTER.

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THE THEATRES, &c.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.—This evening, DON GIOVANNI. On Monday, LA FAVORITA. On Tuesday, A GRAND OPERA. On Thursday, L'ELISIR D'AMORE. On Friday, LES HUGUENOTS. At 8.30 each evening.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA, DRURY LANE.—This evening, FIDELIO. On Tuesday, MARTHA. On Thursday, LUCREZIA BORGIA. At 8.30 each evening. On Monday, at 8.0, OTHELLO.

HAYMARKET.—At 7.30, A FAIR ENCOUNTER, DAVID GARRICK and THE LITTLE TREASURE.

ADELPHI.—At 7.0, SARAH'S YOUNG MAN, NICHOLAS NICKLEBY, and the BELLES OF THE KITCHEN.

PRINCESS'S.—At 7.30, ROUND THE WORLD IN EIGHTY DAYS.

LYCEUM.—At 6.30, FISH OUT OF WATER. At 7.45, HAMLET.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.0, TWENTY MINUTES WITH A TIGER. AT 7.30, THE TWO ORPHANS.

STRAND.—At 7.0, INTRIGUE. At 7.30, OLD SAILORS. At 9.15, INTIMIDAD.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 7.45 (last nights), SWEETHEARTS and SOCIETY.

GAIETY.—This evening, THE TEMPEST.

GLOBE.—At 7.0—THE GUINEA STAMP and BLUE BEARD.

ST. JAMES'S.—At 7.45, BRIGHTON and CONRAD AND MEDORA.

ROYALTY.—At 7.45, A GOOD NIGHT'S REST. At 8.15, LA PERICHOLE. At 10.15, TRIAL BY JURY.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.0, A WHIRLIGIG. At 7.45, OUR BOYS. At 10, A REGULAR FIX.

CHARING CROSS.—At 7.30, DRAWING THE LINE. At 8.15, THE NEW MAGDALEN.

OPERA COMIQUE.—At 8.0, LES TRENTE MILLIONS DE GLADIATOR.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, THE GOOSE WITH THE GOLDEN EGGS. At 8.0, WHITTINGTON.

CRITERION.—LES PRES SAINT GERVAIS, &c.

COURT.—At 7.30, SHORT AND SWEET. At 8.30, LADY FLORA.

SURREY.—At 7.0, THE SECRET. At 7.30, this evening, Tuesday and Thursday, HAMLET; Monday, Wednesday and Friday, OTHELLO.

PHILHARMONIC.—At 8.0, THE CHIMNEY CORNER.

SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE.—HAMILTON'S NEW EXCURSIONS AT HOME AND ABROAD.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—This Day, CONCERT. On Tuesday, LOVE'S SACRIFICE. On Thursday, Second of the new Series of English Plays. Exhibition of Carriages and Harness, April 14 to 23 inclusive. Open daily. AQUARIUM, PICTURE GALLERY, &c.

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EGYPTIAN HALL.—MASKELYNE AND COOKE, at 3.0 and 8.0.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL, Langham Place.—Mr. and Mrs. GERMAN REED, at 8.0.

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ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS,
WOOD GREEN, LONDON, N.

PATRON, HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

PRESIDENT, H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., M.W.G.M.

A QUARTERLY GENERAL COURT of the Governors and Subscribers will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn-fields, London, on MONDAY, the 12th day of April 1875, for the transaction of the ordinary business of the Institution, to Elect a Treasurer for the year ensuing; to Elect Twelve Brethren, being Annual or Life Subscribers, as members of the General Committee for the year ensuing; to Elect two Trustees of the General Fund; to Elect two Trustees of the Sustentation Fund; to Elect Eight Boys from an approved list of forty-eight candidates.

The Chair will be taken at Twelve o'clock at noon precisely.

FREDERICK BINCKES, Secretary.

Office, 6 Freemasons' Hall, W.C., 3rd April 1875.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION FOR AGED FREEMASONS.
ELECTION IN MAY 1875.

The Votes and Interest of the Governors and Subscribers are earnestly solicited on behalf of

JOHN BECKETT,

Over 73 years of age.

BRO. BECKETT was initiated in the "Strong Man" Lodge, then No. 83, now No. 46, on the 7th day of March 1839. Served the offices of Wardens and W.M., was exalted in the "Mount Sinai" Chapter, and served the Junior offices. Joined the "Dalhousie" Lodge, No. 860, and is still a Member.

Severe losses in business and particularly through a fire, which occurred in 1868, which destroyed a large amount of property (the produce of the labour of years), so reduced him as to occasion the present application. From his increased age and affliction his strength is much impaired.

This case is strongly recommended by W. Bro. J. C. PARKINSON G.D. England, D.P.G.M. Middlesex, P.M. and P.Z. of several Lodges and Chapters, Reform Club, Pall Mall, and many other influential members of the Craft.



67 BARBICAN, E.C.

OUR WEEKLY INTELLIGENCE.

PARLIAMENT has met again after the Easter Recess, the House of Commons on Monday, the Peers on Thursday, when they had a brief sitting, and the Mutiny and Marine Mutiny Bills passed their first stage. But nothing specially interesting has marked the proceedings of the former. On Monday, a brief discussion took place as to the Manufacture of Ordnance, and further progress was made with the Estimates. On Tuesday, Mr. Holms moved a resolution in connection with Brewers' License Duty, but the House differed with him to the extent of 203 to 83, and passed to the Bank Holidays' Amendment Bill, which went through committee, but not without opposition from Mr. James, who did not grudge giving people holidays, but objected to this particular measure, as doubtless he would have objected to any other on the same or other subject, "on principle." The House afterwards went into Committee on the Parliamentary Elections Returning Officers' Bill. On Wednesday, the afternoon was wholly occupied in discussing the principle of the "Women's Disabilities Bill, the second reading of which was moved by Mr. Forsyth Q.C., one of the Members for Marylebone. The title is suggestive, at first sight, of something eminently disagreeable. A Bill to amend and extend their "abilities" would seem to be natural. But there is, or was nothing seriously objectionable in the short title—*Vox et præterea nihil*. It would have enabled some among them to vote, a privilege they do not now enjoy. We see no reason why ladies who can bear all the responsibilities of managing a household should not have the right of voting at Parliamentary Elections. The House of Commons, however, appears to have decided otherwise, by a majority of 187 to 152. On Thursday, Mr. Whalley, in the absence of Dr. Kenealy, drew the premier's attention to two cases, in one of which Judge Lawson, at the Limerick Assizes, and in the other, the Lord Chief Justice Cockburn had impugned the verdicts of juries. Mr. Disraeli replied very happily, that he had the greatest respect for the fine old British institution, trial by jury, but, like the honourable member for Stoke and Mr. Whalley, he did not think

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juries were always infallible. Mr. Disraeli subsequently moved a resolution, expressing the very high sense which the House of Commons entertained of the eminent services rendered by Lord Charles Russell, during the seven and twenty years he had held the post of Sergeant-at-arms, a post he has just resigned. The Marquis of Hartington, as leader of the Opposition, seconded the resolution, which it is almost needless to add, was carried *nem con.* The rest of the sitting was occupied with the details on the second reading of the Merchant Shipping Acts Amendment Bill. Sir C. Adderley, as President of the Board of Trade, led off, while Mr. Norwood, member for Hull, and Mr. Brassey respectively moved and seconded an amendment, which however was subsequently withdrawn. Mr. Plimsoll, among others, supported the bill, but announced his intention of moving certain amendments in Committee. An attempt was made to get the debate adjourned, but the proposal found little favour, and at length the second reading was accepted without discussion. The House soon after adjourned.

As usual, Royalty has been active and doing good work. On Thursday H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh presided at the anniversary festival of the British Orphan Asylum. There is something almost Masonic about the character of this Institution, which has been established now but little short of fifty years. Its object is to provide a home, board, and clothing for destitute children of both sexes, whose parents moved in middle or upper-middle classes, and without regard to trade or profession, district or religion. There were present to support the Duke, H.R.H. Prince Christian, the Marquis of Hertford, and a number of noblemen and gentlemen anxious to promote the welfare of the Asylum. In the course of the evening the secretary announced a list of subscriptions, including donations from th Queen, the Duke, and Prince Christian, to the amount of £1,250. On Tuesday their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales presided at the opening ceremonial of the new building erected for the use of Merchant Taylors' School. The head-quarters of this school have till quite recently been located in the narrow thoroughfare called Suffolk-lane. Its new premises are erected on the site of the old Charterhouse School, which, about two years ago, migrated to Godalming in Surrey. In honour of Tuesday's ceremony the retired, not to say somewhat dingy, neighbourhood of Charterhouse Square, the Dead Meat Market, Farringdon-street, and the streets adjacent were a little livelier than usual. In all directions were lines of carriages bringing up those who had been fortunate enough to receive invitations. Among the most distinguished guests were H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, the Duke and Duchess of Teck, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishops of London, Ely and Rochester, Lord and Lady John Manners, several of the Aldermen, a tolerable sprinkling of members of Parliament, and others. The proceedings were briefly opened by the Master of the Company, Mr. J. Coysgarne Sim. Then the Clerk read an address, thanking the Prince for his gracious presence. His Royal Highness next declared the building open, after which the head monitor, Mr. Montague Sherman, recited a Latin Ode of Congratulation, with admirable emphasis. Medals commemorative of the event were then handed to their Royal Highnesses, and to each of the other members of the Royal party, the Prince of Wales graciously giving one of them to the Monitor. The Archbishop then read a prayer, appropriate to the occasion, and pronounced the benediction, when the assembly moved from the Theatre to the Assembly-hall, where a most *récherché* lunch had been provided, Messrs. Ring and Brymer being the caterers. Toasts, of course, were proposed in terms more or less felicitous, and responded to with loud applause, the health of the Prince of Wales being, in this repect, naturally the most favoured. Before quitting the Hall, the Prince asked for, and no doubt obtained, an additional week's holiday for the boys, to be tacked on to this summer's vacation. After this the guests dispersed to their homes. Thus this ancient school will be able to extend greatly its sphere of usefulness, for the premises now opened will accommodate 500 boys. May it prosper, in the future as in the past! Founded in 1561, it already boasts a long lists of eminent men, such as Archbishop Juxon, Lord Clyde, the poet Spenser, &c. In the ages to come may it turn out many men as eminent.

On Wednesday the Prince and Princess of Wales were present at Chatham, for the purpose of taking the chief part in another most important ceremony, but one of an entirely opposite character. True, we may reconcile the difference on the principle *si vis pacem, para bellum.* Still one cannot help remarking that at Chatham the Princess consecrated a huge iron-clad to the purposes of war, the Archbishop invoking a blessing on those "who in this ship now or hereafter commit their lives unto the perils of the deep;" while the day previous the Prince had formally opened new schools "for the better education and bringing up of children in good manners and literature." But to pass from such reflections to the Royal visit to Chatham and its object, which was the launch of a splendid war ship, named Alexandra, in honour of the fair lady who presided so gracefully at the ceremony. The inhabitants, of course, turned out *en masse.* The streets were everywhere gaily decorated with flags and banners of all sorts and sizes and nationalities. There were several triumphal arches, the railway bridge of the London, Chatham and Dover Company was a mass of brilliant colour, and some 5,000 of the garrison—soldiers, seamen and marines—lined the route by which the Royal visitors proceeded to the Dockyard. There they were received by the First and other Lords of the Admiralty, and at once moved to the scene of action. The christening having been performed, the ship moved slowly into the water, amid cheers, and to the well-nigh inaudible strains of "Rule Britannia." The Royal party, which included the Dukes of Edinburgh and Cambridge, the Duke and Duchess of Teck, then lunched, with the other distinguished visitors, at the house of Captain Fellowes, and shortly after returned to London.

On Thursday the Duke of Cambridge presided at the Annual General Meeting of the friends and subscribers to the Royal School for Daughters of officers of the army, held in the Royal United Service Institution. There were present the Marquis of Hertford, Generals Sir A. J. Lawrence, K.C.B., Sir W. Codrington, Adams, Boileau, Sir E. C. Hodge, K.C.B., Sir T. G. Logan, &c., and Bishop Claughton. The report spoke in the highest terms of the character of the School and the proficiency attained by the pupils, the opinion of the Cambridge examiner being cited in evidence of the excellent system pursued generally. In the matter of expenditure, the outlay last year had exceeded the receipts by £700, leaving a total deficiency of £1,100. Regret was also expressed at the deaths of three valuable supporters of the School, Rev. Charles Kemble, F.M. Sir William Gomm, and General Sir J. Hope Grant. Some alterations, notably one raising the minimum age of admission from 10 to 11, in the rules were suggested. The Marquis of Hertford moved, and Sir William Codrington seconded the adoption of the report. This having been agreed to, and a vote of thanks to His Royal Highness for presiding having been moved and carried with acclamation, the proceedings came to an end. The day previous, the United Service Institution was the scene of another meeting, at which Major-General Sir R. Warde, R.A., gave a highly-interesting lecture "on the best practical method for ensuring efficiency in the army, and for obtaining an effective and reliable reserve, having regard to the existing feeling in the country on the subject."

A Mr. Thomas Codey, mineral water manufacturer, of Whitfield Street, St. Pancras, appeared a day or two since at the Marlborough Street Police Court, in obedience to a summons, issued at the instance of the parish authorities, for allowing the discharge of offensive matter into the sewers. The evidence adduced by the parish and the defendant was very conflicting, but Mr. Knox, after mature consideration, made an order that defendant should take immediate steps to discontinue the nuisance complained of. This action of the St. Pancras authorities is highly to be commended. No pains should be spared to make this huge metropolis of ours, with its net work of sewers, as sweet and wholesome as possible. The health of the inhabitants is or ought to be of paramount importance Just as we are taking measures to protect the lives of those "who go down to the sea in ships," so it is necessary to protect the lives of those whose duty takes them down into the sewers.

The charge against Dr. Kenealy of libelling Mr. Thomas Wright, sub-editor of the *Morning Advertiser*, was partly heard at Guildhall, before Sir F. W. Truscott, on Friday last. Mr. Wright was examined and cross-examined at great length by the member for Stoke, at whose instance the further hearing was adjourned to the 20th inst. Meanwhile Dr. Kenealy is "starring" it in the provinces, and almost daily there appear flaming accounts of his enthusiastic reception at the various towns he visits. But of what

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class are these enthusiastic admirers of the doctor? Are they intelligent? Is their enthusiasm worth heeding? their judgment worth relying upon? We doubt it.

The racquet contest for the Public Schools' Challenge Cup came off at the court attached to Prince's Club, Hans Place, Sloane Square, on the 2nd and 3rd inst. The players were C. W. Kemp and H. P. Bouverie (Harrow), D. Lane and J. Oswald (Eton), C. H. Sargeant and F. W. Heather (Rugby), H. R. Webbe and H. L. Ellis (Winchester), G. C. Snow and A. T Allen (Haileybury). The umpires were Messrs. C. F. Buller and R. D. Walker; Pairs, more commonly known as "Punch," marking. The result was as follows:—First round Eton beat Harrow, Winchester beat Rugby, Haileybury a bye. Second round:—Winchester beat Haileybury, Eton a bye. Final:—Eton beat Winchester and thus secured the cup for this year. On Saturday Lillie Bridge was the scene of a great bicycle contest, the competitors being Stanton, whose reputation, as a bicyclist stands high, and Cann, who had two minutes start allowed, and the stake £50. The distance to be travelled was thirty miles. Cann kept his start for the first five miles, and when 12 miles had been accomplished Stanton had only gained 23 secs. In the thirteenth mile Cann had to dismount as one of his treadles had shaken loose, thus enabling Stanton to gain a further 20 secs. This, in each succeeding lap, he contrived to increase, till in the 20th mile he caught and passed him After lapping Cann in the first three miles, the latter gave up, and Stanton was ordered to stop at the 24th mile. His time was 88 min. 14 sec. On Monday St. Paul's School held its annual athletic meeting on the same ground. The band of the 1st Middlesex Engineers was present, and there was a strong muster, especially of sisters, to witness the several contests. The events were divided into three classes, according to age. Jackson received nearly all the honours in the first class, Wall and Lemon in the second, and Menzies and Vickers in the third. Shearman, from scratch, won easily, in 55¼ sec. the Old Pauline Quarter Mile Handicap, J. S. Luke, 30 yards, being second.

Saturday last being the first day on which the Tower of London was thrown open to the public, not far short of 4,000 persons, chiefly of the highly-respectable hard-working classes, for whose benefit the concession is made, availed themselves of the opportunity of inspecting the "lions" of the place. We do not, of course, mean "lions" to be taken literally, though, in former days, lions and bears and other formidable beasts were kept there, but the regalia, the armouries, the axe and block, the instruments of torture, and such like objects of interest. Mr. Hepworth Dixon, whose history of this ancient fortress is familiar to our readers, was present, and did his best to explain to those who accompanied him the structure of the buildings, their uses, and the associations connected with them. There will be two days set part every week for this free admission of the public, namely, Monday and Saturday.

The visit of the Emperor Francis Joseph to Venice, to meet his Royal Brother of Italy, King Victor Emmanuel is now *un fait accompli*. Everything passed off most admirably. The weather was fine, the pageantry was magnificent, the dinners, balls, receptions, visits, and the review of troops, each and every, was a grand success. The history of Venice has been very varied within the last eighty years. It was governed by a Doge till 1798, when it was handed over to Austria by the first Napoleon, and Austrian it remained till 1866, having, in 1848, made a vain effort to achieve independence under the guiding influence of Manin. It is now an integral portion of the Italian kingdom, Italy being happily no longer what an eminent Austrian statesman described as "a geographical expression." The news from other parts of Europe is of little interest; but, at the beginning of March, Buenos Ayres was the scene of a terrible riot, the Jesuit College having been assailed by a mob of from 10,000 to 30,000 persons, set on fire with petroleum, and burnt to the ground. Some of the priests were killed, and others wounded. The Archbishop's Palace was also sacked. The Government have declared the province to be in a state of siege for the ensuing thirty days.

The Annual meeting and distribution of prizes to the pupils of the Masonic Female Orphan School will take place, under the presidency of the M.W.G.M. of Ireland, His Grace the Duke of Abercorn K.G., on Monday evening, the 19th inst., at the Exhibition Palace. Admission will be by tickets, which are obtainable only by the governors of the Institution. The band of the Coldstream Guards, under the direction of Bro. Fred. Godfrey, will perform during the evening.

A grand Masonic ball, in honour of the installation of His Grace the Duke of Abercorn K.G., as M.W.G.M. of Ireland, is announced to take place on Friday next at the Exhibition Palace, Dublin, under the patronage of Grand Lodge of Ireland.

The fifth annual ball in aid of the City and Metropolitan Police Orphanage was held on Thursday evening, 1st April, at the Terminus Hotel, Cannon Street, City. The ball was under the patronage of the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, Bro. D. H. Stone, Col. Henderson, C.B., Col. Fraser, C.B., and a very numerous and influential committee. Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Ellis, Mrs. Ellis, Bro. Sheriff Shaw, Mrs. Shaw and Miss Shaw, Bro. Capt. Sewell, Capt. Skey, Eccles, Edis, Moore, Lieut. Kent, C.C., Bro. Walford, Major Bowman, Mr. Supt. Foster, and above 500 friends were present. In the large room the band, under the direction of Mr. Dickenson, of the A division, discoursed sweet music, and in the smaller room Mr. Cohen's band also did good service. The company then adjourned to supper, under the able presidency of Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Ellis, who gave the usual loyal toasts, regretting the absence of the Lord Mayor, who had been chairman of the Police Committee for eleven years. Bro. Sheriff Shaw, in a very eloquent speech, responded for the "Corporation of the City of London." Bro. F. Kent, C.C., acknowledged the toast of the evening, the "City and Metropolitan Orphanage." Bro. Capt. Sewell, in brief, but appropriate terms, responded to the toast of the ladies. Dancing was then resumed, under the able direction of the honorary M.C.'s, Bros. T. Butler, J. Meekham and Foulger. The company separated at an early hour. It was remarked that this ball was a great success, the Sheriffs and the company liberally subscribing to the Charity. Great credit is due to Mr. Supt. Foster and Inspectors Bailey, Tillcock, Harrison, Everett and Carter for their exertions to secure the comfort of the visitors.

Bro. Jas. Terry P.G.S.B. (Herts), Secretary Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, will work the ceremonies of Consecration and Installation at the New Concord Lodge of Instruction, Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton, on the 21st instant, when it is expected a numerous attendance of the brethren will be present on that occasion.

The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, Bro. D. H. Stone, the Lady Mayoress, and Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Ellis were present on Saturday evening at the Gaiety Theatre to witness the drama of "Rose Michel."

From the *Western Weekly News* we learn that warrants, under the signature of the Prince of Wales, as Grand Master of England, have been issued for the formation of two new Masonic Lodges in Cornwall, one at Newquay and the other at St. Colomb. The Newquay Lodge, numbered 1528, will be called the "Fort Lodge," and Mr. William E. Mitchell, of The Fort, will be the first W.M. The St. Colomb Lodge will bear the title of "Duke of Cornwall," and is numbered 1529; Mr. Thomas Hawken, S.W. of Lodge "One and All," Bodmin, will be the first W.M.

Application has been made for a warrant to establish a new Lodge, at Dunmow, in the Province of Essex, to be named "The Rosslyn Lodge," after the Right Hon. the Earl of Rosslyn, Past Grand Master of Scotland, who resides in the neighbourhood. It is proposed to hold the meetings of the Lodge in the Town Hall, Dunmow. This will increase the number of the Lodges in Essex to 16, and will be the fifth which has been constituted during the last four years.

We understand that a very fine portrait of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as M.W. Grand Master in full Masonic costume, seated upon the throne in which his installation will take place, is in course of preparation. No expense is

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being spared in its production, so that it may not be unworthy of the great event it is intended to record, nor of its august original. We are informed that the highest talent is employed upon it, under the superintendence of Bro. J. Harty, of Lodge 1201. This will prove an enduring memorial of our triumph over the unmerited criticisms and too confident prophecies as to the decadence of our Order, which were so rife amongst our detractors last year. The price of India proofs, a limited number of which only will be issued, and which will be guaranteed by a stamp, is £1 1s, and of ordinary copies 10s 6d to subscribers only. Application should be made either to Bro. Harty, of 9 Barnard's Inn, Holborn, or to Spencer and Co., 23A Great Queen Street, W.C.

The death occurred, on Monday last, of Mr. A. R. Bristow, Solicitor to the Admiralty, to which post he was appointed in 1862. He formerly represented Kidderminster in Parliament. It is announced that the vacancy thus caused will not be filled up for the present.

The Earl of Mount Edgcumbe P.G.M. of Cornwall, has decided upon holding this year's meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge at Callington.

The season at Her Majesty's, Drury Lane, will commence this evening, with the performance of Beethoven's *Fidelio*, Mdlle. Titiens enacting the *rôle* of Leonora. Bro. Sir M. Costa will, as we announced last week, resume his post as director of the music and conductor.

The programme of arrangements for the season 1875-6 at the Alexandra Palace, Muswell Hill, has been issued. It is full enough to justify a lengthy notice, which, accordingly, we shall give next week. Suffice it, for the present to say, that everything has been done to make the season an attractive one, and we have not the slightest doubt that the efforts of the directors will be successful.

By the time our present number is in the hands of our readers, Captain Boyton will have started from Dover on his trip across the Channel to Boulogne. According to the latest arrangements, the Pier authorities have given him permission to start from any part of that structure he may select, at eleven o'clock on Friday night; and it is expected he will reach Boulogne Pier between 1 and 3 p.m. this day. It is a venturesome journey, but it is expected Captain Boyton will achieve a victory. The Royal Humane Society is watching the proceedings with intense interest, and rightly, for a greater boon to our sailors and those who so often risk their lives in rescuing shipwrecked people from the jaws of death cannot be imagined. We wish Captain Boyton a prosperous journey across "the silver streak" of sea.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY NEWS.

FRIDAY.

The Board of Trade returns for the month of March do not show any improvement in our export trade, the total value being £18,606,223 against £20,100,814 in the corresponding month of 1874, or a decline of 7½ per cent., while, compared with that of 1873, the falling off is equal to 14½ per cent. This result is in great measure due to the large decrease in the shipments of coal and iron, the quantity of the former being nearly 2 per cent. less than in 1874, while in iron there has been a small increase in the raw material, which, however, is more than counterbalanced by the decrease in the manufactured article, which has fallen off nearly £600,000, leaving a deficit on the total of 24½ per cent. Machinery has increased in value nearly 10 per cent., woollen cloths, in quantity, 13½ per cent., worsted stuffs 3½ per cent., and jute goods 5½ per cent., while cotton-yarn has declined 15½ per cent., haberdashery 7 per cent., and silk manufactures 17 per cent.

The usual weekly return of the Bank of England, issued yesterday, shows a large decrease in the reserve, resulting from the payment of dividends, the which commenced on Tuesday, yet the proportion of reserve to liabilities has increased 1½ per cent. from 34½ last week to 35½. No change was made in the rate of discount. Consols are quoted 93½ to 93⅝ for money, being an increase of ¼ as compared with last week.

The return of the Banker's Clearing-house for the week ending 7th April, shows that £120,213,000 in cheques and bills passed through that establishment.

The imports show an increase of 4 per cent., being £30,920,747 compared with £29,748,844 in March 1874. The chief feature in this part of the return is a very large import of raw cotton, the arrivals being 1,834,539 cwts. against 1,273,241 cwts. in March last, or an increase of about 44 per cent. The quantity of wheat was 29 per cent. less, while tea was 32 per cent. more than in March 1874.

At a general court of the proprietors of the Bank of England, held on Tuesday, Mr. Henry Hucks Gibbs was elected governor, and Mr. Edward Howley Palmer deputy governor for the ensuing year. Mr. John Francis retired on Thursday from the postion of chief accountant to the Bank of England, a post he has held for the past five years. He is well known in the City as the author of the "History of the Bank of England," and other works. Mr. Henry Gerald Aylmer was appointed as his successor, and Mr. Thomas William Innes deputy accountant.

Advices from Paris state that all idea of the issue of a new French loan this year has been abandoned.

At the ordinary general meeting of the Delhi and London Bank Limited, held on the 7th inst., a dividend of 4½ per cent. per annum was declared, the net profit for the half year, including the amount brought forward, being £10,021.

A dividend and bonus, making 12½ per cent. for the year, was declared at the meeting of the Anglo-Foreign Banking Company Limited, held on Thursday, the reserve fund being increased by £32,000.

The net profit of the Bank of British North America for the year 1874 is stated to be £109,925. It is proposed to pay a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum.

An interim dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum has been declared by the directors of the Bank of Alexandria; one of 6 per cent. on preference, and 5 per cent. on ordinary shares, by the Globe Telegraph and Trust Company Limited, and one of 5s per share for the quarter ending 31st March last by the Western and Brazilian Telegraph Company Limited.

The English Railway Market has been exceedingly buoyant during the week, the principal changes being increases of 3½ per cent. in Metropolitan District, 3½ in London and South Western, 3½ in Midland, 2½ each in South Eastern and London and Brighton Deferred, 2½ in North British, 2½ in Metropolitan, 2 each in Manchester and Sheffield and Lancashire and Yorkshire, while most others exhibit an increase; Chatham and Dover show a decrease of 1½.

Canadian and Foreign Railways generally show little difference from last week.

Mr. James M'Henry, in a circular issued to the proprietors of the Atlantic and Great Western Railroad, briefly sketches the history of the undertaking, and states that his efforts have saved the property, but proven the absurdity of dependence on the Erie Railway Company. He adds, that companies even more powerful than the Erie are willing and anxious to exchange traffic, &c., over the several systems, that the reconstitution of the company is under discussion, and that "a railway passing over inexhaustible coalfields, and through districts producing ten million barrels of petroleum annually, and connecting the States of New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio must, sooner or later, under a well-directed management, prove a prosperous concern."

A dividend at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum was recommended at the meeting of the San Paulo (Brazilian) Railway Company Limited. The profits, after deducting interest on debentures and debenture stock amounting to £113,148. The report of the Recife and San Francisco Pernambuco Railway Company Limited, to be presented to the meeting on the 13th inst., announces the proposed payment of a dividend for the half-year at the rate of 5½ per cent. per annum, leaving £1437 to be carried forward.

The report of the National Life Assurance Society shows that the policies issued during 1874 were 10 per cent. in excess of those issued in 1873; the Assurance Fund now represents £864,590. The new policies issued by the British Empire Mutual Life Assurance Company during the past year were 945 in number, yielding in premiums £7,318; the total income of the year was £116,423, and the accumulated fund is now £574,230.

At the meeting of the London and County Provident Institution, held on 7th inst., it was stated that the revenue of the society for the past year was £2,586, being an increase of nearly 40 per cent. over that of the previous year.

The report of the Cuba Submarine Telegraph Company shows an available total of £2,897. The dividends for the year 1874 of the Eastern Extension, Australasia and China Telegraph Company Limited, amounted to 6½ per cent. per annum, the reserve fund now stands at £75,458.

At the half-yearly meeting of the South Metropolitan Gaslight and Coke Company, held on the 5th inst., a dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. was declared making 10 per cent. for the year.

The accounts, subject to audit, of the Australian Meat Agency (Tallerman's) Company Limited shew a balance sufficient to pay the usual dividend of 10 per cent.

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DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be greatly obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the kingdom would favour us with a copy of their summonses each time of issue.

SATURDAY, 10th APRIL.

Quarterly General Court, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 12 (Election).
108—London, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
173—Phœnix, Freemasons' Hall.
1361—United Service, Greyhound, Richmond, Surrey.
1446—Mount Edgcumbe, Swan Tavern, Bridge-road, Battersea.

MONDAY, 12th APRIL.

Quarterly Meeting Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 12 (Election).
1—St. George and Corner Stone, Freemasons' Hall.
20—St. Albans, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
90—St. John's, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
136—Good Report, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
185—Tranquillity (Emergency), City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
193—Confidence, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
232—St. Andrews, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
967—Leigh, Freemasons' Hall.

R. A. 23—Mount Sion, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.
R. A. 1319—Asaph, Freemasons' Hall.

40—Derwent, Castle Hotel, High Street, Hastings.
69—Royal Clarence, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
75—Love and Honour, Royal Hotel, Falmouth.
88—Scientific, Red Lion, Petty Cury, Cambridge.
104—St. John's, Wellington Hotel, Stockport.
106—Fortitude, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
240—St. Hilda, Freemasons' Hall, South Shields.
262—Sincerity, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
286—Royal Brunswick, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
314—Peace and Unity, Militia Mess Rooms, Preston.
661—Fawcett, New Masonic Hall, Seaham Harbour.
949—Williamson, Royal Hotel, Monkwearmouth, Sunderland.
1031—Hartington, Royal Hotel, Barrow-in-Furness.
1231—Defence, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
1350—Gilbert Greenall, Masonic Rooms, Warrington.
1353—Travellers, Queen's Hotel, Manchester.
1406—Stamford and Warrington, Drovers' Inn, Stalybridge.

R. A. 154—Unanimity, Freemasons' Hall, Wakefield.
R. A. 496—Wakefield, Masonic Hall, Wakefield.

TUESDAY, 13th APRIL.

96—Burlington, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
196—Percy, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
211—St. Michael's, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
228—United Strength, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell.
236—Nine Muses, Queen's Hotel, Cork-street, Bond-street.
548—Wellington, White Swan Tavern, Deptford.
854—Ranelagh, Clarendon Arms Hotel, Hammersmith.
917—Cosmopolitan, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
933—Doric, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.

R. A. 146—Prudent Brethren, Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 185—Jerusalem, Freemasons' Hall.

80—St. John's, Masonic Hall, Sunderland.
93—Social, Freemasons' Hall, Norwich.
241—Merchants, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
333—Royal Preston, Royal George Hotel, Fullwood.
371—Perseverance, Freemasons' Hall, Maryport.
496—Wakefield, Masonic Hall, Wakefield.
633—Zetland, Royal Hotel, Cleckheaton.
764—Harbour of Refuge, Masonic Hall, West Hartlepool.
1213—Bridgewater, Cross Keys Hotel, Eccles.

R. A. 269—Fidelity, Leeds.
R. A. 537—Zion, 1 Hamilton Square, Birkenhead.
R. A. 731—Grosvenor, Bar's Hotel, Chester.
K. T.—Almeric de St. Maur & Geoffrey de St. Omer, Palatine Hotel, Manchester.

WEDNESDAY, 14th APRIL.

Committee, Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, at 3.
3—Fidelity, Freemasons' Hall.
9—Albion, Regent's Masonic Hall, Air-street, Regent-street.
11—Enoch, Freemasons' Hall.
13—Union Waterloo, Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich.
15—Kent, Freemasons' Hall.
87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth.
235—Pilgrim, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
749—Belgrave, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, Limehouse.
1017—Montefiore, Freemasons' Hall.
1260—Hervey, Freemasons' Hall.
1305—St. Marylebone, Eyre Arms, St. John's-wood.
1306—St. John of Wapping, Gun Tavern, High-street, Wapping.

54—Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Rochdale.
84—Doyles Lodge of Fellowship, Masonic Hall, Guernsey.
86—Loyalty, Royal Hotel, Prescot.
116—Royal Lancashire, Swan Hotel, Colne.
117—Salopian, Raven Hotel, Shrewsbury.
146—Antiquity, Bull's Head Inn, Bolton.
191—St. John, Fleeceley Hotel, Bury.
202—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
256—Amphibious, Freemasons' Hall, Heckmondwike.
277—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Oldham.
281—Fortitude, Athenæum, Lancaster.
287—Unanimity, Dog and Partridge, Stockport.
290—Loyalty, Junction Inn, Mottram.
333—Concord, Golden Ball Inn, Stockport.
335—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Salford.
368—Samaritan, George Hotel, Sandbach.
369—Limestone Rock, Swan Hotel, Clitheroe.
390—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Morley, Yorks.
476—Fidelity, Queen's Arms, Dukinfield.
481—Fortitude, Queen's Arms, Newton Moor.
494—Faith, Gerard's Arms Inn, Ashton-in-Mark.
580—Harmony, Wheatsheaf Inn, Ormskirk.
625—Devonshire, Norfolk Arms, Glossop.
654—Peveril of Peak, Crown Hotel, New Mills.
758—Ellesmere, Freemasons' Hall, Runcorn.
[illegible]—Lily Lodge of Richmond, Greyhound Hotel, Richmond.
823—Zetland, Albert Hotel, Salford.
910—St. Oswald, Masonic Hall, Pontefract.
[illegible]—Athol, Douglas Hotel, Douglas, Isle of Man.
1018—Shakespeare, Freemasons' Hall, Bradford.
1063—Callender, Public Hall, Risholme.
[illegible]—Borough, Bull Hotel, Burnley.
1140—Ashton, White Hart Hotel, Cheadle.
1319—Prince Alfred, Commercial Hotel, Mossley.
1479—Halsey, Town Hall, St. Albans.

M. 148—Constantine, Three Cups Hotel, Colchester.

THURSDAY, 15th APRIL.

23—Globe, Freemasons' Hall.
49—Gihon, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham Street.
55—Constitutional, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon Street.
65—St. Mary's, Freemasons' Hall.
169—Temperance, White Swan, High Street, Deptford.
179—Manchester, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street.
181—Universal, Freemasons' Hall.
733—Westbourne, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood.
813—New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton.
1287—Great Northern, King's Cross.
1506—White Horse of Kent, 33 Golden-square.

R. A. 79—Pythagorean, Ship Hotel, Greenwich.

45—Relief, Albion Hotel, Bury.
56—Howard, Town Hall, Arundel.
71—Unity, Masonic Hall, Lowestoft.
205—Ancient Union, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
206—Three Grand Principles, Masonic Hall, Dewsbury.
267—Unity, Mr Oldfield Arms, Macclesfield.
268—Union, Queen's Arms Inn, Ashton-under-Lyne.
275—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield.
283—Amity, Swan Inn, Haslingden.
286—Samaritan, Green Man Hotel, Bacup.
332—Virtue and Silence, White Lion Inn, Hadleigh.
336—Benevolence, Jolly Sailor, Marple.
337—Candour, Commercial Inn, Uppermill, Yorks.
345—Concord, King's Arms Hotel, Preston.
344—Faith, Bull's Head, Radcliffe.
347—Perseverance, Old Bull Hotel, Blackburn.
531—St. Helen's, Hartlepool.
600—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Bradford.
606—Combermere, Seacombe Hotel, Seacombe.
816—Royds, Spring Gardens Inn, Wardle, near Rochdale.
940—Philanthrophy, Freemasons' Hall, Stockton-on-Tees.
1011—Richmond, Crown Hotel, Salford.
1043—Excelsior, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
1327—Upton, Spotted Dog Tavern, Upton, Essex.
1350—Pembroke, West Derby Hotel, West Derby.

R. A. 317—Affability, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.

FRIDAY, 16th APRIL.

6—Friendship, Willis's Rooms, King-street, St. James's.
201—Jordan, Freemasons' Hall.
975—Rose of Denmark, White Hart, Barnes.

R. A. 93—Moira, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.

153—Virtue, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
820—Endeavour, Queen's Arms, Dukinfield.
993—Alexandra, Midway Hotel, Levenshulme.
1106—Wharfedale, Private Room, Westgate, Otley.
1311—Zetland, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
1360—Fenwick, Mason's Hall, Sunderland.

R. A. 871—Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Huddersfield.
R. A. 937—Marquess Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon.

SATURDAY, 17th APRIL.

Audit Committee, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall.
715—Panmure, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
1364—Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Hackney.
1435—Hyde Park, 1 Craven-road, Paddington.
149—Peace, Masonic Hall, Meltham.
306—Prince George, Bottoms, Eastwood, Yorks.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY.—44.—St. Luke, Freemasons' Hall.
TUESDAY.—36.—St. David, Ship Hotel, East Register Street.
" 406.—Rifle, Freemasons' Hall.
WEDNESDAY.—180.—Roman Eagle, Iona Hotel, 62 Nicholson Street.
THURSDAY.—48.—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall.
" 226.—Portobello, Royal Hotel, Bath Street.
" R. A. 153.—Perseverance, Lodge Room, 96 Constitution Street.
FRIDAY.—R. A. 83.—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

United Industrious Lodge, No. 31, Canterbury.—The usual monthly meeting was held on Thursday, 1st April. Present—Bros. Capt. P. H. Knight W.M. in the chair, George Johnson S.W., Doctor B. Browning J.W., J. E. Wiltshier S.D., W. Tice Organist, R. F. Shand I.G., John R. Hall P.M. Hon. Sec., Charles Halltum P.M., Major Umsall P.M., J. Coppin P.M., P. Higham P.M., Rev. L. G. H. Mason, David Collard, J. G. Shanks P.M. 189 P.P.J.G.W. Devon, and several more brethren. The minutes of the last Lodge night were read and confirmed. The gavel was then placed in the hands of Bro. John R. Hall P.M., and Doctor W. H. Longhurst, the Organist of Canterbury Cathedral, who had previously been regularly proposed, balloted for, and unanimously elected, was initiated according to ancient custom. A committee, consisting of the W.M. and the Wardens, was appointed to confer with the St. Augustine's and the Royal Military Lodges for the purpose of fixing the day and making such arrangements as might be found necessary for holding a banquet to celebrate the occasion of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales being installed as M.W.G.M. Some other business was transacted, and the Lodge was closed in due form.

Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, No. 45.—This Lodge held its regular weekly meeting on the 5th inst., at the Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell Green. There were present Bros. Halford W.M., Stock S.W., Cook J.W., Hill S.D., Read J.D., Crawley I.G., Beckett Preceptor, Foxcroft Hon. Secretary, and a numerous gathering of the brethren. The Lodge was opened in due form and the minutes of the last Lodge meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. rehearsed the first and second ceremonies in a very able and impressive manner, the Lodge was then resumed to the 1st degree. Bro. Defries was unanimously re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Killick Secretary. It was unanimously ordered that a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes to Bro. Foxcroft, for the able and efficient manner in which he had performed the duties of Secretary during the past three years, and a pair of elegant vases were presented to

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him in recognition of his services. In acknowledging these, Bro. Foxcroft said that, although retiring from active duty, his heart would always be with the Lodge. A vote of thanks was unanimously awarded Bro. Gardner for his services in connection with the testimonial presented to the late Secretary. Bro. Stock was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. The Lodge was then closed in due form.

Lodge of Faith, No. 141. — The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, 30th March, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Bros. J. Kennett W.M., Waygood S.W., M. Davis J.W. W. Stuart P.M. Secretary, Mallett S.D., Scott J.D., Dairey I.G., and P.M.'s Themans I.P.M., Peever, Carter Treasurer, Hopwood, Cobham, and Taylor. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. Pilbrow, Steng and Chambers were raised to the third degree. Bro. A. Isaacs was passed to the second degree, and Mr. G. Field was initiated. It was then proposed and carried that in future the initiation fee should be seven guineas; joining fee four guineas; for foreign members five guineas; visiting fee seven and sixpence; and on installation nights fifteen shillings. Bro. Carter P.M. and Treasurer was unanimously elected Steward for the installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. Bro. Hopwood P.M. was elected to serve as Steward for the Girls' School, and Bro. D. Barnett for the Boys' School. The Lodge was then closed.

Lodge of Joppa, No. 188.—This flourishing Lodge held its meeting on the 5th April, at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street City. Bros. S. Hickman W.M., A. Dodson S.W., L. Lazarus J.W., L. Auerhaan, E. P. Albert P.M. Secretary, Miller S.D., A. Auerhaan I.G., and O. Roberts I.P.M., Berkowitz P.M. and Chaplain. I. Abrahams, and H. M. Levy. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. Hertzberg was passed to the second degree. Bros. Samuels and Harris were raised to the third degree. Ballots having been taken for the admission of Messrs. Rutherford, Louisson, Poole and Mayers, those gentlemen were duly initiated by the W.M., to whom great credit is due for his perfect working, every ceremony being carefully and impressively delivered. It was proposed that, in the event of only one ticket for the Installation Ceremony being issued to the Lodge, that it be given to Bro. L. Auerhaan, the respected Treasurer. A sum of £3 3s was voted to Bro. I. Abrahams P.M., who is a Steward for the Boys' School. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to slight refreshment. The W.M., who very ably presided, proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts—that of the toast of the Newly Initiated was, in a very appropriate and pertinent speech, responded to by Bro. J. Rutherford, in a manner that shewed his appreciation of the solemnity of the ceremony. Bros. Louisson and Mayers followed, and the W.M. stated that those brethren who had been initiated, had severally given the sums of £2 2s and £1 1s each, and he also informed the brethren that Bro. A. Botibol, who was but a young member of the Lodge, had given the sum of £2 2s, constituting him a V.P. of the Fund, also that the Treasurer, Bro. L. Auerhaan, had given the sum of £2 2s. Bro. O. Roberts I.P.M., in proposing the toast of the W.M., said, he was one who had performed his duties in a most efficient manner, and he was regarded by every brother in the Lodge with respect. The W.M. briefly and appropriately responded. Bro. Mayers, No. 25, responded to the toast of the Visitors, who were Bros. S. J. Howells 1182, Cohen 205, Beadell 15, Saul 120, Phillips 205, Carpenter 1182, Mayers 25. The toasts of the Wardens, Treasurer and Secretary, and the officers were given, and the Tyler's toast concluded a very agreeable evening. Bros. Mayers, Fitchell and Beadell contributing to the harmony.

Bank of England Lodge, No. 263.—This highly esteemed and harmonious Lodge met at the Albion Tavern, 8th April, under the presidency of Bro. F. Miceli W.M. There being no regular business before the Lodge, an animated discussion took place with respect to applications for tickets to the approaching Installation of the M.W.G.M. The Master Masons drew lots for the solitary ticket which, it was understood, would be disposable among them, and Bro. Haly was the fortunate winner. The chances of the approaching elections for the Charitable Institutions were discussed, and the claims of the worthy Bro. P.M. Graves, a Vice President of the R.M.B.I., were warmly urged upon the members, the Lodge being pledged to his support. After the usual sumptuous banquet the meeting separated. Three visitors honoured the occasion with their presence.

Temperance Lodge, No. 739.—The usual monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, 8th April, at the Masonic Rooms, New-street, Birmingham, under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. P. Rhodes, supported by his officers and a goodly attendance of members and visitors. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were read and confirmed. The regular business of the summons was then proceeded with, and the ceremonies of passing and raising were well rendered. After the supper, which was served in capital style, there were given the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

Dalhousie Lodge, No. 860.—The Installation meeting of this flourishing Lodge was held on Thursday, 8th inst., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, Bro. H. W. Dalwood W.M., W. Bristo P.M. as S.W., Wallington J.W., and P.M.'s R. Thompson, Bates, Underwood and Senecal. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. C. F. Oxley No. 910 and W. J. Smith were elected as joining members. Two gentlemen were balloted for to be initiated at the next meeting. The auditor's report was adopted, showing the Lodge to be in a very satisfactory state. A sum of five guineas was voted to be placed on Bro. White's list, who is Steward for the Girls' School, on the next anniversary festival, the 11th of May, on which occasion the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, Bro. D. H. Stone, will take the chair. A Board of Installed Masters was then formed, and Bro. Wallington, W.M. elect, was presented to the Lodge and duly installed into the Chair by Bro. Jas. Terry P.G.D.C. (Herts), in his usual careful and impressive manner. On the conclusion of the addresses, he was warmly congratulated. There were seventeen W.M.'s and P.M.'s present to witness the ceremony; Bro. Seymour Smith, Organist 742, giving his valuable services at the harmonium. The newly installed W.M. then appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. H. W. Dalwood I.P.M., Knox S.W., Allen J.W., H. W. Dalwood I.P.M. Treasurer, C. F. Littell P.M. Secretary, White S.D., Mason J.D., Dodson I.G., Wiege D.C., Cheshire W.S., Seymour Smith Org., and Gilchrist Tyler. The selection of the officers gave great satisfaction to the members. The Lodge was then closed until October, and the brethren, 52 in number, sat down to a very sumptuous banquet, provided by Bro. Clemow and superintended by Bro. Smith. The W.M. proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. That of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.W.G.M. was received with great enthusiasm, Bro. Bristo P.M. singing "God Bless the Prince of Wales," the brethren joining in chorus. Bro. the R.W. the Earl of Carnarvon Pro. G.M., and also that of the R.W. the Earl of Skelmersdale M.W.D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, being also received with feeling, showing how the names of those brethren, and their various Masonic qualifications, finds an echo in the breast of every true Mason. Bro. Seymour Smith then sang a very humorous buffo song. Bro. Dalwood I.P.M. rose and said he had been entrusted with the gavel to propose the next toast, that of the W.M., who had worked every office satisfactorily, from W.S. to W.M. He was pleased to see him in the chair, a position he is well qualified to fill (cheers.) The W.M., in reply, said that Brother Dalwood's remark in referring to him would be an incentive and also a pleasure to him to do all he could for the comforts of the brethren. He had attained the summit of his ambition in reaching the chair, and he thanked the brethren for their kind expressions; he hoped to be spared to be ranked as one of the Past Masters. He then proposed the next toast, the Installing Master, Bro. Jas. Terry P.M., who was the first Master of the Burdett Coutts Lodge. Every brother was pleased to see him; and with his health he would couple the Masonic Charities. Bro. Terry was well qualified to fill the responsible office he held in connection with the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution; in fact, it could never have a better representative. Bro. Dodson I.G. than sang "Nil Desperandum." Bro. James Terry P.M. P.G.D.C. Herts, returned thanks. He felt it a great pleasure to instal the W.M., and he hoped the W.M., on his retirement, would instal his successor. On the next occasion they had a Steward to represent the Girls' School, and he was sure every Mason would do his utmost. From £27,000 to £28,000 annually had been given to the Masonic Charities, and on the last Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution it had received £7000, and he hoped the Girls' School would receive even more than that amount. At the election, on Saturday, there are thirteen girls to be admitted, eight boys on Monday, and thirty-seven on the list of the aged. He concluded his eloquent speech by asking the brethren to support Bro. White as a Steward for the Girls' School. He told them that a small amount given by each brother would enable the Charities to flourish, and he hoped the occasion of the Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales would result in raising such amounts that many candidates who were unsuccessful would have the good fortune to be admitted to participate in the benefits of the Charities. (Cheers.) Bro. Wright P.P.G.S.D. Herts., returned thanks for the visitors in a very eloquent speech. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the Past Master, and alluded to the services rendered by those brethren, he mentioned their names seriatim. Bro. Littell P.M. and Secretary returned thanks. The W.M., in feeling terms, presented Bro. Dalwood I.P.M. with a very elegant gold Past Master's Jewel, with suitable inscription. It had been honestly deserved and fairly won, and he hoped at the expiration of his year of office he might receive the same amount of satisfaction. Bro. Dalwood I.P.M. returned thanks for the valuable gift. He hoped, when he looked upon it, it would be a pleasant remembrance of his association with the Dalhousie Lodge. The W.M. in proposing the toast of the officers of the Lodge, paid them a compliment for their perfect working. Bro. Cheshire S.W., responded, and was followed by Bros. Allen and White. The Tyler's toast concluded a very delightful and harmonious evening. The visitors were Bros. G. A. Read 1364, Driscoll P.M. 30, T. Distin (Phœnix Lodge), Allen 733, J. Smith P.M. 49, J. Miller 65, G. Free P.M. 73, Holb 928, J. Linzell P.M. 1237, J. Terry P.G.D.C. (Herts) Secretary Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, Seymour Smith 742, O. Dittmar 1365, Hill 1278, Gross 1278, Ashburner P.M. 1278, Wright P.P.G.D. Hertfordshire. G. Ward Verry P.M. 554, 1278, 1385, Jackson 179, H. M. Dalton 1365, H. M. Levy P.M. 188, Taylor 101, Stanley 941, Crawley P.M. 174, Cox 1257, Moore 1365. During the evening Bro. Seymour Smith proved himself an able accompanyist, and Bros. the W.M. Weige, Rein, W. Bristo, Wright, and others contributed to the harmony. Before separating the brethren expressed their satisfaction for the agreeable evening passed.

Aberystwith Lodge, No. 1072.—At the regular monthly meeting of this Lodge, which was held on Thursday, 1st April, at the Belle Vue Royal Hotel, Aberystwith, Bro. G. T. Smith, of that town, estate agent and auctioneer, the senior P.M. of the Lodge, was presented with a handsome and valuable testimonial, consisting of an elegant Past Master's jewel in gold and blue enamel, a massive solid silver tea service of very chaste design, and a handsome marble mantel clock, surmounted with a bronze equestrian group. Bro. Smith has held the office of Worshipful Master four times; he has likewise filled the offices of Grand Secretary, and Senior Grand Warden for the Province of the Western Division of South Wales.

Excelsior Lodge, No. 1155.—The usual monthly meeting of

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this Lodge was held at the Sydney Arms, Lewisham, on Thursday, 1st April. Bro. Bear, the Worshipful Master, was in the chair. Bros. Hore S.W., J. Roper J.W., Smith, Welstead, Turnbull, Landragin, Bromert, J. Bates, Watson, Wilson, Scott, Bro. Past Master Moore, C. G. Dilley Secretary, Carver P.M., and several others. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of last regular meeting, also the Emergency Meeting held on the 22nd March, were read and confirmed. The only business before the Lodge was the election of W.M., Treasurer and Tyler. The S.W., Bro. Hare, was elected to fill the Master's Chair for the ensuing year. Bro. G. Bolton P.M. was re-elected Treasurer, the Tyler was also re-elected; the bye-laws were read, and the Lodge was closed. The brethren afterwards adjourned to a most excellent banquet, provided by the host, Bro. Watson. The visitors were Bro. G. Brown P.M. 169, Bro. Tibbles 169, Patey P.M. 147.

Upton Lodge, No. 1227.—An Emergency Meeting of this Lodge was held at the Spotted Dog, Upton, Essex, on 2nd April, Bros. G. Levick W.M. in the chair, B. Picking P.M. S.W., G. E. Slee J.W., D. Posener S.D., Lyon J.D., G. Brown I.G., F. C. Kinnear W S., R. Bolton P.M., G. Bratton P.M., G. T. English P.M., R. W. Goddard P.M. Secretary, J. Wayland Treasurer, Bros. Merralls, Brooks, Andrews, H. Isaac, Tuhill, T. Leonard, H. Hart, White, Oldroyd, J. Vause, Tremlett, Witherstone, &c. Visitor—Bro. Senior, Finsbury Lodge 851. The Lodge was opened, and a ballot taken for Messrs. J. Pyle, A. Jugla, W. Chalfont and W. Odell, which was unanimous in their favour. Messrs. Pyle, Jugla and Wibrow, who had been elected in October last, were then initiated into Freemasonry as E.A.P.'s; this being the whole of the business for which the Lodge was called, it was closed and adjourned till the third Thursday in April.

Golden Rule Lodge, No. 1261.—The regular monthly meeting of this Lodge was held at the Regent Masonic Hall, Air-street, Regent-street, on Tuesday, 6th April. The chair was taken by the W.M., Bro. W. M. Smith, supported by Bros. Williams S.W., Abner Torkington J.W., P. Godfrey S.D., Longley J.D., T. James I.G., Bro. J. Harris P.M. Hon. Secretary, Bros. W. S. Fabian P.M. D.C., F. Deane, J. Levy, Emden, and several others. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Mr. Simpson for initiation, which was unanimous in his favour, and he was initiated accordingly. Bro. Emden answered the usual questions, and retired. The Lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bro. Emden was passed to the degree of a F.C. The Lodge was opened in third degree, and Bro. Deane was raised to the sublime degree; the Lodge was resumed to first degree, and closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet. There was only one visitor present, Bro. Pierce Egan, the novelist, of St. Andrew's Lodge, who returned thanks for the visitor's toast.

Asaph Lodge, No. 1319.—The members of the above Lodge met on Monday, the 5th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, early in the day, to enable members who are of the musical and theatrical profession to pursue their professional avocations, and yet not be debarred from rendering themselves proficient in Masonic duties, many of whom have passed the various chairs with credit. Bro. Frewin W.M. was in the chair, W. Reed as S.W., W. A. Tinney I.G., Ed. Swanborough D.C., and P.M.'s C. Coote P.M. P.G.O. (Middlesex), J. M. Chamberlin and Jas. Weaver P.P. G.O. (Middlesex.) The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. Coles was passed to the second degree. The working deserves especial praise. A notice of motion was given that the Lodge be removed. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren separated.

AID TO HAPPINESS AND HEALTH.—Bilious affections, with all their concomitant annoyances, induced by atmospheric changes, or too liberal diet, should be checked at once, or serious consequences may ensue. When any one finds his ideas less clear than usual, his eye-sight dimmed, and his head dizzy, with indisposition for all exertion, physical or mental, he may be quite sure that he is in immediate need of some cooling and purifying medicine. Let him send at once for a box of Holloway's Pills, which will free him from his sufferings, and speedily recover his usual healthful feelings. If the bowels be irritable, Holloway's Ointment should be diligently rubbed over the stomach and liver every night and morning.

THE DRAMA.

London Assurance—Rank and Fame—The Guinea Stamp.—Hamlet at the Surrey.

ROSE MICHEL, at the GAIETY, has had but a short-lived career, and *London Assurance* now reigns in its stead. The adaptation appears to have been a very indifferent one, and a play which might have run 200 or 300 nights has, therefore, to be shelved at the end of a few days. *London Assurance* is a very welcome piece at all times, and the public who stayed away from the French melodrama may be induced to patronise the genuine English comedy. Mrs. Gladstanes appears as Lady Gay Spanker, and Mr. Maclean plays, in a becoming manner, the character of Sir Harcourt Courtley.

At the STANDARD a great success has been achieved with an adapted French melodrama entitled *Rank and Fame*, from *L'Officier de Fortune* of Messrs. Adeins and Rastaing. The plot of this play is of a most complicated, but at the same time, most exciting and interesting character, the *Deus ex machina* being a kind of secret society or *Vehmgericht*. The piece is well cast, the principal parts being allotted to Messrs. Dewhurst and Howard Russell and Miss Furtado.

The Guinea Stamp, a dull and commonplace comedietta, has been chosen to succeed *Lady Audley's Secret* at the GLOBE THEATRE. The chief parts are played by Mr. Lionel Brough and Miss Rachel Sanger, but little *kudos* is, we fear, to be made out of either impersonations.

The revival of *Hamlet*, as now being played at the SURREY THEATRE, seems to be almost as successful as at the Lyceum. Mr. W. Creswick is nightly received most enthusiastically. The Ghost of Mr. Henry Marston has always been recognised as one of the best delineations of that veteran actor. He is well described as belonging to the "old school," and it is a great treat to those who followed both Mr. Creswick and Mr. Marston through their careers at Sadlers Wells, to have again the opportunity of seeing those gentlemen together. *Othello* is announced for next week, and here again both will have an opportunity of appearing in characters in which they have made their reputation.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

The following statement shows the receipts for traffic on the undermentioned railways for the past week, as compared with the corresponding week in 1874:—

Railway.	Miles open. 1875	Receipts. 1875 £	1874 £
Caledonian	737	53,117	48,973
Glasgow and South Western	315½	16,617	14,784
Great Eastern	763	47,981	48,974
Great Northern	517	52,150	48,957
Great Western	1,525	100,322	104,621
Lancashire and Yorkshire	430	67,708	69,173
London and Brighton	376½	31,887	32,174
London, Chatham and Dover	153½	18,850	17,776
London and North Western	1,582½	169,541	163,724
London and South Western	—	37,974	39,862
London, Tilbury and Southend	45	1,846	1,556
Manchester and Sheffield	259½	29,992	28,886
Midland	944½	188,122	111,788
Metropolitan	8	9,528	8,280
" " District	8	5,107	4,219
" " St. John's Wood	1½	497	426
North British	839	41,508	38,874
North Eastern	1,379	123,097	124,156
North London	12	7,280	6,658
North Staffordshire Railway	190	10,150	11,050
" " Canal	118	1,461	1,550
South Eastern	350	38,075	40,900

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VOL. I.—No. 16. SATURDAY, 17th APRIL 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

THE INSTALLATION OF H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES.

IN order to keep our readers *au courant* of all that relates to this important ceremonial, we have to announce that the tickets of admission have been now issued. A circular to the secretaries of the several Lodges has also been dispatched by the Grand Secretary, in which it is directed that as regards the single M.M.'s ticket per Lodge to which it has been found necessary to limit the admission of members of this grade, the Lodge secretaries are to see that the names of those M.M.'s who intend to be present are entered on their tickets, and duly announced to Grand Lodge with as little delay as possible; otherwise they will not be available. The circular further suggests, on behalf of Grand Secretary, that while disclaiming all idea of interfering with the method of selection, he is instructed to say that when the system of balloting for this single ticket is not adopted, it appears to the Committee of Management to be not inequitable that it should be allotted to the oldest subscribing member of the Lodge. For our own part, if the ballot be not adopted, and any objection is raised to this suggestion of the Committee, we respectfully submit a plan which has occurred to some brethren, and to which there appears to be no valid objection, that this single ticket should be offered to the S.D., the senior officer of the Lodge who is not entitled *virtute officii* to be present, only and of course subject to to the very natural proviso that he is not entitled to be present in connection with any other Lodge, in which case it might be allotted to the J.D. or the next in rank. As regards the production of Grand Lodge certificates, which may not be procurable by all M.M., any brethren so situated are recommended to come accompanied by some well known member of the same Lodge or Province, who may be able to vouch for their identity. It is further enjoined on all members of the Craft that none shall appear in Masonic clothing outside the Hall, it being strictly forbidden by the laws of our Order that any procession should take place without the authority of Grand Master. So much for the tickets, and the very becoming suggestions of Grand Secretary. But, *apropos* of this event, we see a question has been raised in the *Times*, by a correspondent, who signs himself "A Proprietor, but not a Freemason." He says "Reference has been made in your paragraph of Saturday to every class of the qualified brethren, and notice given that the applications for admission are more than double what the Royal Albert Hall will hold, but not the slightest intimation is given to the proprietors of boxes and stalls as to what is to be done with them and their privileges." This omission, he thinks, may be productive of "awkward consequences, if not properly and satisfactorily explained beforehand." But, on Thursday, another correspondent of the same journal points out that this point had not been overlooked, that proprietors' rights only extended to "public" occasions, and that no difficulty is apprehended as to any one demanding to be present at what will be essentially a *private* meeting. Like this latter correspondent, we anticipate no difficulty whatever on this score. It is hardly probable that so important a question should have escaped the notice of the authorities of the Royal Albert Hall, still less the Committee to which Grand Lodge has entrusted the arrangements. Doubtless the proprietor, who is not a Freemason, possesses more than the average share of that curiosity we all inherit from our parent Eve. For once, we fancy, his curiosity will have to remain unsatisfied. The question is one which, it seems to us, must be settled, if with anybody, with the authorities of the Albert Hall, certainly not with the Grand Lodge of Freemasons, whose selection of an appropriate place for the Installation was governed, not only by considerations of space and other important details, but likewise by the necessity for absolute privacy, so that the possibility of cowans or eavesdroppers finding entrance into the Lodge should be made, humanly speaking, an utter impossibility.

THE LATEST DENUNCIATION OF OUR ORDER.

ACCORDING to the correspondent of the *Standard*, the Bishop of Orleans, Mgr. Dupanloup, has recently published a pamphlet in which he strongly denounces Freemasonry. The right reverend prelate affirms that man cannot be a Christian and a Freemason at one and the same time, "because Freemasonry, in its spirit, essence, and action, is the enemy of Christianity." Voltaire, for instance, was a Freemason. Then there are Masonic Councils assembled in direct opposition to the Œcumenical Council. Then it is "eminently dangerous" as a political body. "By its profound and unceasing political, social, and revolutionary action, it is a constant danger to society; it is the laboratory where revolution is prepared in the dark." It played a great part in the Commune, and all disturbances with which France had previously been afflicted. The Bishop, we are told, closes this violent attack of Masonry by imploring "Christians not to be led astray by the pretended philanthropic programme of the Freemasons, for the realisation of which Christianity itself suffices more than enough, without having recourse to ridiculous means." He also urges them "to shun a society which is the negation of all religion and the enemy of all society."

We have no intention of treating this attack in a flippant manner, but the above remarks appear to us to suggest that his reverence has hardly yet attained to years of discretion, or, perhaps, hardly possesses that amount of discretion which is ordinarily expected in a man of his years. As to the first statement quoted, that Freemasonry is "the Enemy of Christianity," we would remark that Freemasonry, being the enemy of no religion, is certainly not an enemy to Christianity, which is only one out of several religions, recognised as such by men of every religious faith. Masons are a body of religious men, who sink all differences of creed in one implicit and universal reliance on the goodness of the G.A.O.T.U. They are not "eminently dangerous" as a political body. They are not a political body at all, and their obligation binds them to a strict observance of the laws of that country in which they reside. Plots and conspiracies, therefore, against established authority, whether monarchical or republican, are foreign to the nature of Masonry. Thus Masons exert no political action, for politics are a forbidden subject; they exert no social influence in any way hurtful to society, nor is there anything revolutionary in them, for they are sworn to be obedient to constituted authority. There is no pretence about "the philanthropic programme of the Freemasons." The sums annually disbursed in charity by Masons all the world over are a grand reality, not a miserable pretence. This body of men is *not* "the negation of all religion," for in no act or deed of Masonry is religion overlooked, nor can it be "the enemy of all society," when all its acts and deeds are meant to benefit society. Masons are observant of three things, together forming the motto

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of their Order. These are Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth. They who observe these are the enemies neither of religion nor of society.

Bishop Dupanloup cannot but remember that — to mention a single case only—a Bull was launched against Freemasons by Pope Clement VIII., in 1738. Since then Freemasonry has gone on flourishing more and more every day. In those days, we were, comparatively speaking, a small and uninfluential Order. Now we are legion, and are recognised by Kings and Princes, between whom and revolution there is certainly nothing in common. This prelate appears to have 'aken a leaf out of the book of a certain Professor Robison, who sought to prove that Freemasonry was at the bottom of everything opposed to religion and good government. He might have studied to far greater advantage "The Ingoldsby Legends," especially that particular legend, the "Jackdaw of Rheims," in which we read :—

The Cardinal rose with a dignified look,
He call'd for his candle, his bell, and his book!
In holy anger, and pious grief,
He solemnly cursed that rascally thief!
He cursed him at board, he cursed him in bed;
From the sole of his foot to the crown of his head;
He cursed him in sleeping, that every night
He should dream of the devil, and wake in a fright;
He cursed him in eating, he cursed him in drinking,
He cursed him in coughing, in sneezing, in winking;
He cursed him in sitting, in standing, in lying;
He cursed him in walking, in riding, in flying,
He cursed him in living, he cursed him dying!—
Never was heard such a terrible curse!
But what gave rise to no little surprise,
Nobody seem'd one penny the worse!

LABOUR AND REFRESHMENT.

THERE is, we fear, too marked a tendency in very many Lodges to hasten through its labours, with a view to entering, as soon as possible, upon the business of refreshment. Refreshment, after the Lodge is closed, is often necessary, and always proper, for the Brother who has not done a good day's work by the time he attends the meeting is the exception, not the rule. It may be recorded as an axiom, that every member of every Lodge in town and country will take, at home, a something to recruit "the inner man," when the Masonic duties of the day are ended. There is not only no harm therefore, but, on the contrary, much good done by his taking that something in the company of his brethren. It promotes, aye, is intended to promote, good fellowship. Man, being a gregarious animal, can never fail to reap some benefit from the society of his fellows, and Masons, who never assemble formally but for mutual enlightenment or the promotion of some worthy object, are not likely to be an exception. But it is possible to carry a matter too far, and doubtless it is within the experience of most of our readers that the time set apart for labour often compares somewhat unfavourably with the time devoted to refreshment. The other day we commented on a recent article in the *Saturday Review*. The good taste of the writer was about on a par with his knowledge of our art. His idea of an "Emergency Meeting," and the reason he assigned why Popery denounced us so strongly no doubt answered the purpose for which they were written. The ignorant laughed at the sorry jest, while it fell quite harmlessly on us to whom Masonry is no secret. For ourselves, we saw in the reception by the Great City Lodge of our respected Brother, the Lord Mayor, only an act of homage, gracefully rendered to a Mason, who, by his own merits, had risen to be Chief Magistrate of this city. To this the banquet, though on a grander scale than usual, was, as all our banquets are meant to be, certainly subsidiary; and few, we imagine, will deny in this particular instance its necessity, considering the number of hours that had first been set apart to the fulfilment of Masonic duties. While, then, we readily concede that all men who have laboured diligently are entitled to take not only rest, but refreshment likewise; while we admit that an occasional banquet is perfectly legitimate, and promotes good feeling among members, we must still caution our readers against making the banquet of primary instead of subsidiary importance. Lodges which encourage "feeds" that are either too expensive or too protracted, furnish such silly writers as our Saturday Reviewer a certain shadow of an excuse for their attacks on Masonry.

Moreover, apart from this, there are many reasons why the business of a Lodge should not needlessly be curtailed. Masonry inculcates many sublime truths by means of a very beautiful symbolism. To what better purpose can we devote a portion of our time in Lodge than to an earnest study of these truths, and the symbols by which they are illustrated? We have more than once expressed our conviction that those who seek and gain admission into our Order, do so with a sincere desire to obtain, to use a familiar phrase, more light. But how shall any obtain this light, except by study on their own part, and the instruction of older and more experienced Masons? A knowledge of Masonry is no more to be obtained by the unaided light of nature, than is the knowledge of any other art or system; nor can a Mason, who has learnt by rote certain *formulæ*, and is able to repeat them faultlessly, be said to have acquired a full knowledge of the Craft, any more than a man who has learnt by heart the rules of the Latin Grammar can be pronounced a good Latin scholar. Just as in the study of the Latin language a man must know not only the rules of grammar, but become familiar with the meaning of words, of sentences, of idioms, just as afterwards he must master the different constructions of sentences, and their relation to each other, and then advance to the more difficult, yet far more enjoyable task of reading an author, so as to grasp his meaning, and the allusions he makes to the history or social habits of those who spoke the Latin tongue, as well as note the beauty of style that should be imitated, or the looseness of construction that must be avoided, so in Masonry. Familiarity with certain formulæ, the nature of which our readers will understand, though we are forbidden to specify them, is only the first step in the acquirement of Masonic knowledge. When we have mastered these, and—seeing that nothing can be written—the effort is no light one, we have only, so to speak, mastered the grammar of Masonry, and a mere knowledge of words and sentences. We still have to learn its construction, how this fits with that, how these with those. Then, as in the study of everything that is veiled in allegory, there is still to be acquired the hidden meaning of the many symbols we use, and why we use them. Hence the Lodge of Instruction, so that novices may gradually become more and more proficient in our ritual. Hence, also, the lecture by some experienced and learned brother, when the hidden meaning of all that is beautiful and good in Masonry is made clear to us, so that we can realise, in some measure at least, the immense value of the art we have taken upon ourselves to study. If brethren will only bring themselves to think so, this kind of Masonic work is infinitely preferable to the mere study of the want of the inner man. We fully appreciate the good things of this life. We feel, indeed, something akin to contempt for the man who decries, avoids, or wilfully misuses them. But mere enjoyment of this particular kind is not the "be-all and end-all" of Masonry. Non-Masons enjoy themselves, and are all the better for the enjoyment. But, in becoming a Mason, a man voluntarily commits himself to the fulfilment of certain duties. He hopes that, in the fitness of time, he will attain a certain rank in the Craft, that so his sphere of usefulness may be more and more extended, and his ability to serve Masonry and mankind in general become greater and more effectual. But all this is only attainable after a zealous course of labour, and the Lodge it is which must afford the opportunities for labour. A Lodge which meets periodically for the purposes of instruction in our mysteries may justly take a pride in the work that it does. A brother who takes upon himself to enlighten his fellows in the beauties of the Masonic ritual, and the lessons to be learnt therefrom, does equally good service. With all due respect to our brethren, we should like to see more account taken of labour, and less of the banquet. This latter, as we have said, is mostly necessary, but it is *not* of primary importance.

Let silly people laugh at us if they will. He laughs longest who wins, and Masonry is bound to win the respect and affection of all, as it has of most, creeds and nations. And he who laughs loudest has the least sense, in accordance with the old and often quoted adage—none the less true because old and often quoted—"The loud laugh betrays the vacant mind." The Pope may damn us—let not our readers be affrighted at the word, which is Scrip-

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tural, and moreover only a simpler form of "condemn"—it is in his nature perhaps. But the ridicule of folly and the condemnation of a Priest will do us no harm; not even to the extent of diminishing our zeal for labour or our appetite for refreshment.

FREEMASONRY IN HOLLAND.

SOME writers fix the date of the first existence in Holland of a Masonic Lodge as early as the year 1725, but the first evidence we have of a Lodge meeting belongs to the year 1731. On this occasion a deputation of English brethren visited the Hague for the purpose of initiating into our Order Francis Stephen, Duke of Lorraine, afterwards Emperor of Germany. Our then Ambassador, the Earl of Chesterfield, presided, Bro. Strickland acting as Deputy, and Bros. Hadley and Will. Dueth being Wardens. This, however, appears to have been only a Lodge of Emergency, and it is not till three years later that, under the guidance of Bro. Vincent de la Chapelle, who had received his patent for that purpose, from the Grand Lodge of England, a regular Lodge was constituted, of which the Count de Wagenaer was chosen Grand Master. This Lodge held its sittings at the Hotel "*Lion d'Or*" and took the title of "*Loge des Provinces-Unies et du ressort de la généralité*," and, in 1749, it assumed that of *Mére-Loge de l'Union Royale*. In 1735, a Lodge was established at Amsterdam, and also a new one at the Hague, in the Hotel "Nieuve Doelen," under the presidency of Grand Master J. Corn. Rademaker, J. Knenen being chosen Deputy Grand Master. A notice of this having been published in an Amsterdam journal, the States General took alarm at the spread of Freemasonry, of the nature of which they were in utter ignorance, and issued an edict forbidding Masonic assemblies, imagining that a confederacy had been entered into in favour of the House of Orange, which might be prejudicial to the government. The Book of Constitutions, handed over at a judicial trial by Bro. Dagran, was narrowly inspected, the consequence being, as we have stated, that all meetings were prohibited. This prohibition was repeated by the Burgomaster of Amsterdam, yet the Lodge established in that city continued to hold its meetings, but in secret. Hearing this, the Lodge was ordered to be closed, and the Masters and Wardens were summonded before the assembled Council, when they swore that Freemasons were peaceful, faithful to their country, and, in fact, so succeeded in convincing the authorities of the harmlessness of the Craft that further persecution was abandoned, and, it is said, by Lawrie and Rebold too, that one of the judges was sent to be initiated into the society, and that the rest became themselves Freemasons. However this may be, there is no question that the State not only ceased to oppose the spread of Freemasonry, but when, in 1740, the priesthood refused to grant absolution to those who had joined the Order, it came forward as the protector of the Brotherhood, and enjoined on the clergy not to reject any Freemason, if in other respects an honest man. As some of the Dutch Lodges held their constitutions from the Grand Lodge of England, and others from those of Germany and France, a general assembly of the fourteen Lodges was called, at the instance of the Mother Lodge of the Royal Union, on 25th December 1756, when the Grand National Lodge of the United Provinces was established, Bro. L. Dagran occupying the chair. Baron Von Aersen-Beyeren was elected the first Grand Master, and the year following the statutes of the Lodge, in 41 articles, were issued. In August 1758, the Count Christian F. Bentinck was elected Grand Master, and, in June 1759, was succeeded by the Baron Carl von Boetzelaar, who held his office for no less a period than 39 years. During his tenure of the Grand Mastership everything was done to consolidate Masonry in the Netherlands, and in 1770, by his mediation, the Grand Lodge effected its independence from the Grand Lodge of England, the latter agreeing to recognise it, and only stipulating that the former should not constitute any Lodge in England or the English provinces. The higher degrees were imported into the country in 1757, and this led Bro. Sauer to address a letter to the Grand Lodge of England, inquiring after their nature. The answer written by Deputy Grand Master Manningham is very interesting, and will be found *in extenso* in Findel. In 1780, an alliance was entered into with the Strict Observance, and the result was the installation of a National Chapter, of which Prince Frederic of Hesse Cassel was Grand Master. Beside this, however, Grand Lodge continued to flourish. In 1784 Baron von Boelzelaer celebrated the twenty-fifth year of his National Grand Mastership, and in 1798, the very year of his death, a new Statute Book was, by his order, laid before the brethren, in pursuance of which the Grand Lodge only accepted the three symbolical degrees, while the four higher degrees were placed under a Grand Chapter, who were to be entrusted with their distribution. Baron J. van Teylingen succeeded to the Grand Mastership, and the number of Lodges, both at home and in the colonies, was greatly increased during his administration. In 1801 a Lodge (La Bien Aimée) was held in the presence of ladies, but in 1810 any further Lodges of Adoption were forbidden by Grand Lodge. Bro. C. J. Byefield was elected Grand Master in 1804. Bro. Bosquet succeeded him in 1810, and his successor was Bro. W. Barncart. In 1808 the Asylum for the Blind, in Amsterdam, was erected at the sole expense of the four Lodges in that city, without any contribution from the corporation, the first impetus to this admirable work being given by Bro. Will. Holtrop, Grand Orator and W.M. of the Lodge *La Charité*, in Amsterdam. When Holland became a part of the French Empire, the Grand Orient of France sought to assume jurisdiction over the Grand Lodge of the United Provinces, but the action of the latter was so firm and dignified, that the Grand Orient renounced its claims, only the nine Lodges constituted by it in various towns remaining under its jurisdiction till 1814. In this latter year Bro. Reepmaker was elected Grand Master, and in 1816 was succeeded by H.R.H. Prince Frederick of the Netherlands, who still occupies the throne. In 1817 the Belgian Lodges, at the invitation of Prince Frederick, entered into an alliance with the Dutch Lodges, the result being that a grand central Lodge, or Orient, for the whole of the Netherlands, was erected, with Provincial Grand Lodges, one for the northern division, situated at the Hague, the other for the southern, and situated at Brussels. When Belgium became an independent power, a severance was effected between the two provinces. In 1863, we are told in Findel, there were fifty Lodges under the Netherlands Grand Lodge, thirty-eight of which were in the mother country, and the rest in the colonies.

ATTENDANCE AT LODGE.

THERE are many things which Freemasonry will do for a man in the way of opening his mind and giving him larger and kindlier views of life, but Freemasonry itself, with all its power to polish and refine, cannot eradicate the natural bias of the disposition. Thus, the prompt man flowers into a prompt Mason, the dilatory man is ever behindhand with his Masonic duties; and so, through all the mental gamut, from the man who talks overmuch, down to the man who does not talk at all, Masonry is a microcosm; a world in little, wherein we may behold all the varieties of mankind. These differences of temperament and habit are seen in no relation more clearly than in attendance at Lodge; and in cataloguing a few varieties, in sticking pins through the Masonic butterflies, and in arranging them herewith in our cabinet, we shall be very tender with the specimens, not to rub the faintest blue, not to soil the brightest silver, but to leave jewels and scarlet and gold as unsullied as when free in air they wantoned about the Masonic world.

He who marches on the right of the first four in the Masonic regiment is the man who never misses attendance at Lodge. As certain as that you will get from the secretary your notice of meeting, with its due array of initiations, passings and raisings, so certain is it that, come what come may, HE will be in his place. His is probably the first face which will greet you as you pass the sacred portal guarded by the mysterious tyler. A quick, ready man, versed in all the details of the Craft, generally bland and courteous, willing to impart information, and help in the duties which repetition and practice have made a second nature to him, the constant attendant is the safe pilot of the young Mason, the man to find out and follow. A beacon through many a dark passage, at the further end of which burns the shining light of knowledge.

In contrast, next comes the man who is rarely seen.

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Something is always happening to the man who is rarely seen. Sometimes he is ill. Sometimes overwhelmed with business. Sometimes he has sickness at home. Sometimes he is out of town. Sometimes his affairs are going badly. Sometimes he is so profitably employed that he cannot spare time, but whatever the reason be sure he is never without an excuse. It is always, "My dear boy, I just missed coming last time, but will be sure to be with you at next Lodge," for the man who is rarely seen is the Prince of Apologists.

The Lodge worker is like a herring caught in June. He is king of his kind. Indeed, without him there would be no Lodge at all. What he works at, or why he works must always remain a mystery to the majority of the world, but he does work, and very hard too. His is a work which cannot be done by deputy, or it would cease to be his. The Lodge worker is therefore the real working man; moreover, he has this advantage over certain other working men not unknown to the franchise, that besides being the actual governing power he has been at pains to ascertain the principles of government. Masonry is, not without reason, proud of the circumstance that kings have stepped from their thrones, generals from the heads of armies, and men of genius from the world's applause to mingle in the obscure rites of the brotherhood; but Masonry is prouder still of those brethren, let their rank in life be what it may, who, led on by pure love of virtue, devote their talents and leisure to mastering our magnificent ritual, and passing it on to new generations of men, perfect and unchanged.

We are living in a world where God has set in every field and copse embroidery of moss and glittering jewels of sunlit rain drops and morning dew; thus, seeing rich beauties in our Mother Nature's face, we are not insensible to the worth of the outside shows of things, but we know it is in the common earth, under the beauty, and hidden from the light, that the principle of growth may be found at work. We do but praise the face of our Mother Nature for the changing tints and flying clouds, the trees and rocks and glistening seas, and all delightful sights which make it happiness to be awake and out in the open air, but we are grateful to our Mother Earth because she grows the corn to keep our bodies alive, because she is, in fact, the Lodge worker.

If the Lodge worker deserves praise, the Lodge talker deserves only "multitudinous laughter." The Lodge talker is a Masonic jack-in-the-box, ready, the moment the cover of opportunity is lifted, to spring up and make a speech. For him no subject is too small, nor any too great. He will make you a half-an-hour's oration concerning an odd sixpence in the charity-box, and finish up with a substantive motion that he will by deed of gift make the nineteen shillings and sixpence into the round sum of one pound sterling. He is a creature who constantly "wants to know, you know," and is for ever asking questions which answer themselves. Not content with the interruption which his own babble occasions to serious business, he generally wears creaking boots, and as he passes about from brother to brother, with the stealthy motion of a sparrow-hunting cat behind a garden wall, his whispered nothings into unwilling ears are scarcely more irritating than the jerky creakings of his dry leather. The Lodge talker is no less a man and a brother because he is ridiculous, but he would confer a favour on his Lodge if he did not talk quite so much.

Now, for the least hurting pin, and the nicest bit of cork for our harmless brother, the "Wallflower." Through thy somnolent centre, O, harmless brother, let us press tenderly, for we well know not even pain would elicit complaint from thee. As thou sittest by the wall, silent, with grave face, looking out under placid brows, who shall say what is passing within the deep caverns of thy unvocal brain. Thou seest the Masonic world go by in panoramic procession, thyself the silent observer of other men's mouthings. What brilliant strokes of policy mayst thou not have engendered, being all too modest to formulate them into words. What Demosthenic orations mayest thou not have delivered to thyself, what wit, what humour, dimly floating in a sea of inarticulate elaboration, may not have been thine. Brother Wallflower, sit silent and be happy. Saying too much has often got a man into a scrape, yea, even the newspaper scribe is not free from the vice of wordiness, but thou art safe. A bunch of wallflowers in a cottage window shall scent you the house through with a sweet savour, so that a man, grateful for all sorts of blessings, shall be likewise grateful for thee.

Worse than the man who never misses, and than he who is rarely seen; not to be compared with the worker, lower than the talker, infinitely less worthy than the wallflower is he who never attends at all; so bad, so wicked, so much to be blamed is he that some day he shall have a small essay all to himself.

The worst offence of which a Mason can be guilty is indifferentism, and the worst compliment he can pay to a good Worshipful Master is to stay away from Lodge. It has been brought against Masonry that it is clannish. Let us accept the sneer. As the terms Whig and Tory were first terms of opprobrium, and came afterwards to be accepted as the honourable titles of the two great parties in the State, let us also take to ourselves this reproach of clannishness, the first principle of which is loyalty. The Worshipful Master is head of the clan for the time being, when he summonses us let us rally round him, and prove that we are faithful to our allegiance by a regular attendance at Lodge.

OUR CHARITIES.

A Quarterly General Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls was held on Saturday, the 10th instant, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Bro. Major Creaton P.G.D., Vice Patron and Trustee, in the chair. Bro. Robert Wentworth Little, Secretary, read the minutes of the former meeting, which were confirmed. Bro. Samuel Tomkins, Grand Treasurer, was elected Treasurer to the Fund. The following brethren were elected on the Committee of Management, viz., Bros. Browse jun., Cargill, Corben, Farnfield, Gossett, Kingston, Law, H. Massey, Moore, Peacock, Turner and H. M. Levy. The general business was disposed of, and an election by ballot took place for thirteen children from a list of candidates, with the following result:—

On List.		On Poll.	
31.	M. E. Bingham	1	1284
15.	L. S. Stranson	2	1270
24.	E Owens	3	1060
10.	E. Case	4	1029
3.	M. S. Rogers	5	1018
23.	A. E. Scott	6	997
12.	M. Phillips	7	940
8.	F. Craig	8	927
26.	E. Trumble	9	885
22.	E. E. Tippee	10	811
5.	E. S. Christie	11	809
6.	M. E. Barsby	12	806
9.	A. E. Kite	13	759

The numbers of votes recorded for unsuccessful candidates can be obtained on application at the Secretary's Office, and will be duly carried forward at the next election if the Candidates are then eligible. Votes of thanks were accorded to the chairman, scrutineers, &c. Among those present were Bro. Hugh Sandeman P.G.M. (Bengal), Capt. Smith, R. Spencer, Hyde Pullen, C. A. Cottebrune, G. Bolton, Tattershall, E. Cox, F. Binckes, Jas. Terry, A. D. Loewenstark, J. Stevens, H. Massey, Stephens, &c.

The Quarterly General Court of the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, of which Her Majesty the Queen is Patron, and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales K.G., M.W.G.M., is President, was held on the 12th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street. Bro. John Symonds V.P. in the chair. The general business having been disposed of, a ballot was taken for the election of eight Boys from an approved list of forty-eight Candidates, and the following were declared duly elected:—

On List.		On Poll.	
31.	Davies, James Sanders ...	1	2139
37.	Armitage, Charles Edgar ...	2	1841
12.	Swallow, John Tom ...	3	1828
48.	Pilling, Thomas Smith ...	4	1765
2.	Buttrey, Jas. Arnytage ...	5	1749
1.	Marks, Jas. Thos. ...	6	1637
27.	Jackson, Wm. Henry ...	7	1599
11.	Kerr, Arthur David ...	8	1554

The votes of the unsuccessful Candidates will be carried to their credit at the election in October 1875. Lists

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of the Candidates, with the votes polled for all, successful and unsuccessful, may be obtained on application to the Secretary, Bro. Frederick Binckes, at the Office, 6 Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C. Votes of thanks were accorded to the chairman, scrutineers, &c.

The regular meeting of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and the Widows of Freemasons was held on Wednesday 14th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street. The Secretary, Bro. Jas. Terry, read the minutes of the former meeting. Several deaths of annuitants were announced, one of them, had he lived until June next, would have attained his 100th year. The report of the finance committee was read and adopted. The list of subscribers is to be published annually, instead of once in two years. Among those present were Bros. Jas. Brett, C. A. Cottebrune, J. Constable, Hilton, G. Stephens, T. White, J. Smith, H. Massey, H. M. Levy, Griffiths, Smith, J. Bellerby, T. Cubitt, J. Newton, L. Stean, C. Lacey, C. Hogard. The meeting was adjourned to the following month.

THE ALEXANDRA PALACE, MUSWELL HILL.

THIS day fortnight will take place the opening ceremonial of the new Alexandra Palace, erected on the site of the building so disastrously burnt down in June 1873, just when a fortnight's experience had raised, in every one, the hope that a sterling and permanent addition had been made to our places of entertainment. The former palace was opened on 24th May 1873, and in the afternoon of 9th June following nothing remained of it but tottering walls and smouldering ashes. In the short interval of time, however, 124,124 persons had visited the place, there having been on Whit Monday alone, within a few score of 60,000. But the directors, hastily summoned to the spot by the news of the great disaster, even while the fire was rapidly destroying what had cost them so much money and labour to erect, pluckily resolved to build a New Palace, that should outvie this one. Hardly had the fire died out when measures were taken to build a fresh. All honour to so grand an illustration of British pluck! At one time hopes were entertained that the new Palace would have been opened during the August of last year, but it was found undesirable to commence a season just when London would be emptying itself of its fashionable people, and the opening was accordingly, and, we think, very properly, deferred till the spring of the current year. As our readers are, no doubt, anxious that we should lay before them the programme of this season's entertainment, so far as it has been possible to arrange it, we hasten to fulfil our promise of last week, and submit the following summary of the arrangements for their enlightenment.

We have said the opening is fixed for Saturday, 1st May. On this occasion a grand ceremonial will be observed, and Bro. Sir Michael Costa will have charge of the musical portion of the proceedings. Among the eminent *artistes* who will support him, the names of Mdlle. Titiens, Madame Trebelli-Bettini, Signor Campanini, Herr Conrad Behrens are already announced. The Company's choir will be assisted by members of Choirs, of the Sacred Harmonic Society, Her Majesty's Opera, and the band will be greatly enlarged, while the vocalists and instrumentalists will, together, number fifteen hundred performers. On Whit Monday, 17th May, which is also a Bank Holiday, there will be a grand National Festival, to include a grand Concert in the Great Central Hall, under the conductorship of Sir Julius Benedict and Mr. H. Weist Hill. Among the vocalists will be Mdlle. Titiens, Miss Sterling, Miss Edith Wynne, and Messrs. Sims Reeve, E. Lloyd, and Santley. Six Military Bands, including those of the Grenadiers, Coldstreams, and Scots Fusilier Guards, will perform in the Palace and Park. There will also be a Balloon ascent, Athletic Sports, and performances in the Theatre and Hengler's Circus. A special programme is also announced for Saturday, 29th May, on which day will be publicly celebrated Her Majesty's Birthday. In June, the most important features are the Alexandra Palace Races for the 1st and 2nd, the Choral Festival of the Tonic Sol Fa Association on the 9th, a Temperance Fête on the 14th, the Horse Show—for which the arrangements, if at all like those of former years, cannot fail to be unexceptionably good—on the 15th, 16th, 17th and 18th, Rose Show and Garden Fête on the 24th and 25th, and two London Swiming Club Fêtes on the 7th and 26th respectively. The Committee for the Horse Show includes the Marquis of Conyngham, the Earls of Aylesford, Guilford, and Portsmouth, Sir George Wombwell, Bart., Colonel Luttrell, Messrs. A. Rusbout, E. Tattersall, H. Villebois, and others. Over £1,000 will be awarded in prizes, and the horses will be arranged in sixteen classes, for thoroughbreds, stallions, hunters, roadsters, agricultural horses, ponies, &c. In July, will be held the Dramatic Fête on 3rd and 5th, Licensed Victuallers Fête on the 12th, the Scottish Fête on 17th, the Hound Show on 14th and 15th, Nottingham Odd Fellows Fête and Excursion Fêtes. In August, a special programme will be provided for the Bank Holiday on the 2nd, there will be another Race Meeting on the 17th and 18th, and a Flower Show on the 24th and 25th, while Monday, the 23rd, will be set apart for the Great Fête of Railway Officials and Servants. Additional fixtures will be made as the season advances, but our readers will gather from the foregoing details that a full and sufficient programme is already arranged, and that it will be no fault of, or owing to any lack of energy in, the directors if the public do not thoroughly enjoy themselves in the new Palace, and the Park in which it is situated.

We have passed unnoticed such attractions as the Picture Galleries, the Grove, the Japanese Village, and others, simply because a proper judgment of their attraction can only be formed after personal inspection, and this we have been unable to make as yet; but if they at all realise the description given of them in the programme, they cannot fail to please. It only remains to add that we wish the directors every success, and we hope the public will show their appreciation of the plucky efforts of the Company by bestowing upon it all the patronage they can. The directors have done their duty well by catering liberally for the public. Let the public return the compliment by patronising them to the full extent of their ability.

THE ANGLO-SAXON.

THE nightwind whistles through brake and bush,
The owl flaps moodily by,
The moonbeams glance with a pale weird flush,
Where clear in the rill, at the base of the hill
The glist'ning pebbles lie.

And the shade of the vigorous Saxon thane,
Looks round on the land of his race:
Each cherished feature seeking, in vain,
For how changed is his dwelling-place!

Tangle of briars has grown on his grave,
And thorny thickets have crept
Around the spot, where his kinsmen brave
Covered his bones with a mound of stones,
And laid all he loved best, in the place of rest,
Where the Saxon noble slept.

He knows not the land where his kindred dwelt,
Of which they spoiled the effeminate Celt:
For all is gone, or changed.
The glorious forests are levelled low,
But many a ruddy and cheerful glow,
Peeps from many a homestead, where goodwives sow,
And platters are cosily ranged.

But yet, though the land is changed and tilled,
Though ev'ry spare acre is used and filled,
The sons of the men whom the Normans quelled,
Have increased a thousand-fold.
The Saxon race is the same as then,
The Normans have vanished from Saxon ken,
And the land gives birth to a race of men,
With the Saxon hearts of old.

Instead of disputing the right to the soil
With Briton, and Piet, and Dane;
Three powerful kingdoms are firm in their sway,
Beneath Saxon rule the same Sov'reign obey,
And more; with unyielding and conqu'ring toil.
Realms, realms upon realms have been linked in the coil
Of the sons of the Saxon thane.

He gazes on Worlds that his time never knew:
His mechanical agencies simple and few
Are supplanted by magical might;
And the creed that his sons had embraced to his shame,
The nation has cherished with fervour and fame,
That have given the Saxon a glorious name,
Radiant with halo of light!

So regrets are made light, as he sees thro' the night,
The great deeds his race has achieved.
He ponders in thought, till the first streak of dawn,
Proclaims the approach of the bea th-breathing morn,
On the wonders that Hengist had scouted with scorn,
And Alfred would scarce have believed.

Then in peace and in pride, by the green hill-side,
His shade seeks blest repose.
And the pebbles gleam in the sparkling stream,
That in murm'ring ripplets flows.

WALTER SPENCER.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

All Letters must bear the name and address of the Writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.

—:o:—

MASONIC CLOTHING AT THE INSTALLATION CEREMONY ON THE 28TH INSTANT.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR,—It should be well understood by our brethren who are members of *Provincial Grand Lodges*, that at the approaching ceremony of Installing the M.W. Grand Master, they must wear the sky-blue Craft Collar, which denotes their Past Master's rank, OVER that of their office in Provincial Grand Lodge, or *go without* the latter. The purple and gold Apron of Provincial rank may be worn instead of the sky-blue Craft Apron, *but the purple Collar must be veiled or discarded.*

Yours fraternally,

DEPUTY PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER.

MASONIC PHRASEOLOGY IN SHAKESPEARE.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR,—I was for the moment nonplussed a few days since by a remark of a friend of mine that, though reference to almost every conceivable subject was to be met with somewhere in our great poet's writings, there was nothing indicating in Shakespeare any knowledge of the existence of Freemasonry. I had seen a similar remark in the pages of some Masonic work, but I had also seen, as I thought, a passage from one of his plays quoted in one of the Masonic books I possess, which, at all events, implied a certain degree of familiarity on the part of Shakespeare with the forms of expression in use among Freemasons. Accordingly, I made a search, and at length found quoted *Antony and Cleopatra*, in Captain Smith's *Use and Abuse of Freemasonry*. On further reference to the play itself, I found two or three other and almost equally suggestive passages. Captain Smith boldly infers that Shakespeare was a member of our Order. I will not go to such a length, but as the references are interesting, I have transcribed them and send them herewith for your columns, if you deem them worthy of a place. Some of your readers who have studied this play more critically than I have done may like to venture an opinion as to the value of Captain Smith's inference. I have italicised the Masonic terms or allusions in each quotation.

In Act II. Scene 1, Pompey says:—

> "'Twere pregnant they should *square* between themselves;
> For they have entertained cause enough
> To draw their swords: but how the fear of us
> May *cement* their divisions, and bind up
> The petty difference, we yet not know."

In Act II. Scene 2, Mecænas, in conversation with Enobarbus, remarks of Cleopatra:—

> "She's a most triumphant lady, if report be *square* to her."

In the following scene (3), Antony thus addresses Octavia:—

> "My Octavia,
> Read not my blemishes in the world's report:
> I have not kept my *square*; but that to come
> Shall all be done *by the rule*." *

In Act III. Scene 2, occurs the following, in a short speech by Cæsar:—

> "Most noble Antony,
> Let not the piece of virtue, which is set
> Betwixt us as the *cement* of our love,
> To keep it *builded*, be the ram to batter
> The fortress of it."

In Act III. Scene 11., Enobarbus says:—

> "Mine honesty and I begin to *square*."

For the benefit of those who may feel disposed to accept Captain Smith's idea that Shakespeare was one of our brethren, I will just recount a few facts and dates, which certainly enjoy the merit of being singular coincidences.

James I. of Great Britain, when yet only James VI. of Scotland, patronised Masonry. Lawrie mentions that in "The Privy Seal Book of Scotland 61, F. 47," is a letter dated Holyroode House, 25th September 1590, and granted by the King "to Patrick Copland of Udaught, for using and exercising the office of Wardaurie over the art and craft of masonrie, over all the boundis of Aberdeen, Banff, and Kincardine, to had wardan and justice courts within the said boundis, and there to minister justice." This letter, by the way, thinks Laurie, proves that the King nominated the office bearers of the Order, that Lodges existed in these remote counties of Scotland, and destroys Robison's assertion in his *Proofs of a Conspiracy*, p. 21, that Elias Ashmole, initiated a Freemason in 1646, is the only instance of a person who was not professionally an architect being initiated into the Order. The subject is referred to in Bro. D. Murray Lyon's *Freemasonry in Scotland*—a most valuable and exhaustive work, but Bro. Lyon differs with Lawrie's views as above stated.

James was also a great admirer of Shakespeare's works, and, on arriving in London, took into his pay and patronage the Shakespearian Company of Actors, calling them royal servants, and granting them letters patent.

Antony and Cleopatra, according to Gervinus, was written in the year 1607-8, the first mention of it occurring in 1608.

According to Preston, James I. laid the foundation stone of Whitehall in 1607, there being present Inigo Jones, Grand Master of England, and his Wardens, William Herbert, Earl of Pembroke, and Nicholas Stone, Esq., Master Mason of England.

In the *Encyclopædia Britannica* Inigo Jones's name will be found in the list of Grand Masters anterior to 1717, as having held the office from 1603 to 1618, and again from 1636 to 1646.

There is then something decidedly suggestive in this use of Masonic terms by the poet. Many a freely accepted theory has long rested on more imperfect data than Captain Smith's—that Shakespeare was a Mason.

Yours fraternally Z.

* This is the quotation referred to above as appearing in Captain Smith's work.

DOMESTICISM AND MASONRY.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR,—The duty of brethren dwelling together in unity is forcibly urged upon us all by the Divine Psalmist, and Masons, I both hope and believe, are not neglectful of the inspired advice offered to them. Many a deep and lasting friendship, many a relationship even closer still than that of friends, owes its origin to the casual meeting of two brethren in the Lodge. It is well then that we should all of us encourage a society which is the means of establishing such friendly ties among its members. At the same time, the claims of the household must not be overlooked and made of less importance than the fulfilment of our Masonic duties. Again, it must be borne in mind that Masonry urges us to do as much good as lies in our power both to brethren and others, but it enjoins us, also, strictly not to do this to the detriment of ourselves and our families. Nor is it otherwise than praiseworthy when we find a young brother anxious to attain position in the Craft, with the very harmless desire of wearing sundry jewels, and commanding the admiration of those below him in rank. But he should not exert this ambition to the neglect of his own duties at home, or at an outlay which the requirements of his family demand. Let him, if he have a little to spare for one of our charities, bestow it ungrudgingly, but let him first look to where charity begins. So shall he be both a good man and a good Mason.

I am, fraternally yours, A PAST MASTER.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All Letters and communications must be addressed to the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, *67 Barbican, London, E.C.*

P.Z.—We know of no such work as you speak of.

LL.D.—We cannot entertain the question.

OMEGA.—There is no law on the subject, but, in our opinion, a member should either—not attend the Lodge, go out before the ballot, or vote if he remains.

QUINTAPLE.—Consult your Book of Constitutions, under that particular heading.

EXPECTANT.—We fear you will be disappointed, but there is no harm in trying.

SEE TO IT.—Four is the number usually given, but some say six.

ERRATUM.—In the "Cagliostro" correspondence, at lines 21 and 22, second column page 230, *for* "This Council of the Philaletheans" *read* "This Convention."

THE MAIDEN'S "PSALM OF LIFE."—Tell us not in idle jingle "marriage is an empty dream," for the girl is dead that's single, and things are not what they seem. Life is real, life is earnest; single blessedness a fib; "Man thou art, to man returneth," has been spoken of the rib. Not enjoyment and not sorrow is our destined end or way, but to act that each to-morrow finds us nearer marriage day. Life is long and youth is fleeting, and our hearts, though light and gay, still like pleasant drums are beating wedding marches all the way. In the world's broad field of battle, in the bivouac of life, be not like dumb driven cattle—be a heroine—a wife. Trust no future, howe'er pleasant; let the dead past bury its dead, act, act to the living present; heart within and hope ahead. Lives of married folks remind us we can live our lives as well, and departing leave behind us such examples as shall "tell;" such examples that another, wasting time in idle sport, a forlorn unmarried brother, seeing shall take heart and court. Let us, then, be up and doing, with a heart on triumph set; still contriving, still pursuing, and each one a husband get.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—The long and trying winters in this variable climate sap the foundations of health in the strongest constitutions, and prepare the way for the inroads of disease and premature decay, and the results frequently show themselves when the advent of spring, with its brighter and warmer days, calls into activity latent mischief. The peccant humours which infect the frame can be readily cast out by the use of those well known and long esteemed Pills. They address themselves directly to the stomach, promote and perfect the assimilation of the food, and thus effect permanent and life-long good. They thoroughly cleanse the blood, regulate disordered digestion and circulation, and by so doing reinstate failing, weak, or unsound health.

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REVIEWS.

All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, 67 Barbican, E.C.

Letters Sent Home.—Out and Home Again by way of Canada and the United States; or, What a Summer's Trip told me of the People and the Country of the Great West. By William Morris, author of "France and the French," "Ireland and the Irish," &c. Swindon: Printed at the *Advertiser* Office, 10 Victoria-street.

In his introductory remarks Mr. Morris tells his readers that these letters are reprinted from the columns of the *Swindon Advertiser*, having appeared therein at regular intervals during the year 1874. They were sent home during a two months' journey through parts of Canada and the United States. Mr. Morris does not, of course, offer himself as an authority on American matters. His object was to describe in a genial chatty style what he saw, the people who journeyed with him acoross the Atlantic, the incidents that occurred aboard ship, and in his brief visits to sundry Canadian and American cities, as well as the aspect of the country, its resources, and the wonderful advance it has made of late years. We think he has achieved this object in a manner highly creditable to himself and very entertaining to any one who is content to obtain just a slight and superficial knowledge of these countries. He went out in the Moravian, and, naturally enough, we have sketches of his fellow-travellers. There is, of course, a funny man, curious people, little children, and all the varieties and types of character we expect to meet on board a ship journeying with emigrants and others from Liverpool to New York. Observant men find plenty of matter to interest them during a twelve days' ocean trip. Ludicrous incidents occur from time to time, and help to while away the tedium of the journey. Thus, waking up the first morning after starting, the occupants of the four berths—of whom the writer was one—which filled one cabin, spring simultaneously from between sheets into the confined space allotted them for dressing. Of course, they get so wedged together, that putting on their clothes is out of the question; so, after a laugh over the scene, two of the number good naturedly tumble in again, while the others get through their task as well as they can. The singing of young children affords Mr. Morris an opportunity for a little sentimentalism, and we have a brief dissertation on the Gulf stream. We presume no observant traveller to or from the States would dream of commiting so gross an oversight as to pass unnoticed this most important of ocean-currents. Quebec is the first Canadian city Mr. Morris makes acquaintance with; this he describes at some length, noting all such matters of interest that come under his notice in connection with the buildings, fortifications, customs, markets, the price of meat, the sale of land in the province, the emigrants' barracks, schools, &c. Next we reach Montreal, and then Ottawa, the capital of the Canadas, and indeed of the Dominion. Kingston and Toronto are also visited, and of them, as of Niagara and its Falls, Detroit, Chicago, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Washington, New York, and other American cities, we have a general description of all things likely to fix the attention of a traveller. The last two letters contain a summarised account of the journey home again, with the inevitable reflections which it is only natural that every visitor to the States should indulge in. The subject of emigration is, of course, referred to, and the yet undeveloped resources of Canada have their fair share of notice. All these topics are treated pleasantly, and if Mr. Morris has been able to tell us but little that an average reader may not get from histories and the writings of other travellers, what he does say comes before us in a concise and genial form. Take the following passage in reference to Chicago, as an example:—

"Within a period of from twenty to forty years there had been growing up, both in Canada and America, cities and towns of so vast a magnitude that we in England can really form no idea of them, either as regards the magnificence of the buildings, the area occupied, or the number of inhabitants massed together. The existence of these places is brought to our notice now and again, by some great and startling event. We know of Chicago"—with all due respect to Mr. Morris, we had heard of it several years before, but doubtless this way of putting it must be taken as a mere figure of speech, and with just a grain or two of salt—"by its great fire. Twelve or thirteen years ago the place was not even mentioned on our maps of America. There are now ten separate railways running into, or through the city. I was naturally anxious to see the place."

The following, which Mr. Morris has extracted from "The Report of the Board of Public Works of the Common Council of the City of Chicago, for the year ending 31st March 1872," will afford some idea of the disastrous fire which destroyed so large a portion of the City in October 1871:—

"The most notable event which occurred in the past year, or which has occurred in any year in the history of Chicago, was the destruction of a large portion of the City by fire, on the 8th and 9th of October last. The loss of property was greater than has ever occurred before, from the same cause, in the history of the world, amounting, according to the most reliable estimates, to two hundred millions of dollars. This fire originated on the west side of the river, in a small stable standing on the north side of De Koven-street, east of Jefferson-street, and in the near part of the east half of Lot 12, Block 38, School Section Addition to Chicago, at about nine o'clock on the evening of Sunday, 8th October 1871. This section of the City consisted almost entirely of wooden buildings, which the dry season had made very inflammable. The fire was speedily under full headway, and aided by a furious south-west wind which was blowing at the time, spread in a northerly and easterly direction, with wonderful rapidity, over a territory about four miles in length, by an average of two-thirds of a mile in breadth, and comprising about 1,688 acres; and finally terminated at midnight of the second day, at the extreme north-east portion of the city, having destroyed, with two or three exceptions, every building in its course. It burnt over, on an average, sixty-five acres per hour, and the average destruction of property for the same time was about seven and a-half millions of dollars, or about 125,000 dollars per minute. It reached the Chicago pumping works at three o'clock on Monday morning. The buildings connected with the works were partially destroyed, and the machinery so badly damaged as to stop working; thereby cutting off the supply of water, and leaving the city without means for checking the progress of the fire. When the extent and fearful progress of the fire are considered, it is a matter for wonder, as well as gratitude, that so few lives were sacrificed. So far as can be ascertained, the whole number will not exceed one one hundred and fifty."

Mr. Morris traversed the ruins, and he adds the following, which he had gleaned no doubt from the civic authorities:—

"The fire had no respect for persons or things, it actually *melted* fifteen thousand water service pipes, and destroyed three hundred and seventy meters. It got down into the sewerage works, doing damage to the amount of 42,000 dollars, and it burnt bridges and destroyed viaducts, which will require an expenditure of 203,210 dollars to replace. 2,162 public lamps and lamp-posts were more or less injured by the fire, and the cost of repairing and replacing them, is estimated at 33,000 dollars. The fire raged over the wooden block pavement for a distance of twenty-eight and a half miles, doing damage to the extent of 211,350 dollars; and it burned up and destroyed the wooden sidewalks along the streets and roads. (I have told you how these sidewalks are made, by baulks of timber, being nailed down transversely across the footways on sleepers) for a total length of one hundred and twenty-one miles and three quarters."

It is clear that fire has carefully studied the genius of the Americans. Our transatlantic cousins admire bigness, and accordingly the fire raged at Chicago on the grandest scale ever heard of in the world's history.

We must take leave of Mr. Morris's *Letters Sent Home*. However, in doing so, we offer him hearty thanks for having enabled us to pass a few leisure hours most agreeably.

The *New Quarterly* opens with an article on "Allotment Gardens," by Mr. Richard Jefferies, in which, having described the different kinds of allotments in different parts of the country, and how far they do or do not prosper, he comes to the conclusion that the extension of the system is desirable and possible, but subject to certain essential conditions. He is, however, strongly against any scheme for dividing land into small plots or allotments, as it "would reduce the projectors to the condition of savages, or little better." Then follows a disquisition, by the Rev. T. H. L. Leary, on "The Religious Element in Chaucer's Poetry," and a novelette by Mr. John Dangerfield, entitled "The Fool of the Family." The story is short, but well put together. A Mr. Edward Wynter, the son of a clergyman in the West of England, finds himself, by the death of his father, thrown on the world almost without resources. He reaches London with a ten pound note in his pocket, devotes himself to press work, and one morning wakes up to find himself famous. He writes a leader on some abstruse point in International Law, which the Editor of the "London Mail" accepts. He is afterwards employed as a leader writer on this journal, is received in society as a rising young man, and meets Amy Dashwood, whom, in his youthful days, he had fallen in love with, but who discarded him. His love is re-awakened, and they are again engaged, when a momentary reverse of fortune overtakes him, and he is a second time cut adrift. A régime of flashy writing is inaugurated under the new proprietorship of the "London Mail," and Wynter has to begin his career afresh. All goes well with him, however, but he does not fall in love a third time with Amy Dashwood. On his first visit to the editor of the "London Mail" he had met, among others, in the waiting-room, a Miss Champernowne, who, with her mother, does the "public concert critiques." He meets her often afterwards, and she it is whom he ultimately marries, in her true name of Lily Fontaine. One passage is rather amusing. Speaking of leader-writers, Mr. Dangerfield says: "Every one who has tried it knows that writing leading articles is *an easy thing enough; it only* requires that a man should *understand his subject thoroughly*, should not use long sentences, or long words, or pedantic ones; *should have some wit, some sense of humour, a fair share of common sense, and rather more than a fair share of tact.* If he writes for gentlemen and men of the world, it is, of course, necessary that he should be acquainted with their sentiments, and should express himself with their *locutions*. Granting all this, it is the very easiest thing in the world to write a leading article." No doubt, Mr. Dangerfield, if *only* a man possesses the qualifications we have italicised, he will find leader-writing easy enough; but the range of attributes which are governed by the little word *only* is, to say the least, a pretty wide one. *Only*, forsooth, a thorough knowledge of one's subject, combined with "some wit, some sense of humour, a fair share of common sense, and rather more than a fair share of tact!" How many, may we ask, are there who possess *only* all these important qualifications? And as to *locutions*, is it not one of those pedantic words which, according to Mr. Dangerfield, a leader writer should not use. The rest of the number includes an article on "Trout Fishing," by Mr. Archibald Banks, "The Moral Aspect of Vivisection," and "Thomas Love Peacock: A Personal Reminiscence," by Robert Buchanan. Thus the readers of the *New Quarterly* will have a very varied and, it may be added, a very excellent range of matter to occupy them during their leisure hours.

United Ever.—New Masonic Song. Words by Bro. T. B. Whitefoot, 573. Music by Bro. John Tolkien S.W. 573. Published by J. B. Tolkien, Music Warehouse, 87 New Street, Birmingham.

This song, which is set in the key of G Major, is respectfully dedicated to the M.W. Provincial Grand Masters of Warwickshire and Worcestershire and we think our respected brethren have every reason to be proud of the honour done them. The song is very happily and very gracefully written, while the music does equal credit to the merits of the composer.

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THE THEATRES, &c.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.—This evening, LA FIGLIA DEL REGGIMENTO. On Monday, DON GIOVANNI. On Tuesday, LA SONNAMBULA. On Thursday, LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR. On Friday, LUCREZIA BORGIA. At 8.30 each evening.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA, DRURY LANE.—This evening, RIGOLETTO On Monday, FIDELIO. On Tuesday, second appearance of Mdlle. Elena Varesi. On Thursday, LE NOZZE DI FIGARO At 8.30 each evening On Monday, morning performance of OTHELLO. And on Friday, morning performance in aid of the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre Fund. At 2.0 o'clock.

HAYMARKET.—At 7.30, A FAIR ENCOUNTER, DAVID GARRICK and THE LITTLE TREASURE.

ADELPHI.—At 7.0, SARAH'S YOUNG MAN, NICHOLAS NICKLEBY, and the BELLES OF THE KITCHEN.

PRINCESS'S.—At 7.30, ROUND THE WORLD IN EIGHTY DAYS.

LYCEUM.—At 6.50, FISH OUT OF WATER. At 7.45, HAMLET.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.0, TWENTY MINUTES WITH A TIGER. AT 7.30, THE TWO ORPHANS.

STRAND.—At 7.0, INTRIGUE. At 7.30, OLD SAILORS. At 9.15, INTIMIDAD.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 7.45 THE MERCHANT OF VENICE.

GAIETY.—LONDON ASSURANCE and THE TEMPEST.

GLOBE.—At 7.0—THE GUINEA STAMP and BLUE BEARD.

ST. JAMES'S.—At 7.45, BRIGHTON and CONRAD AND MEDORA.

ROYALTY.—At 7.45, A GOOD NIGHT'S REST. At 8.15, LA PERICHOLE. At 10.15, TRIAL BY JURY.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.0, A WHIRLIGIG. At 7.45, OUR BOYS. At 10, A REGULAR FIX.

CHARING CROSS.—At 7.30, DRAWING THE LINE. At 8.15, THE NEW MAGDALEN.

OPERA COMIQUE.—At 8.0, MADEMOISELLE DUPARC. At 10.0, LE HOMARD.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, THE GOOSE WITH THE GOLDEN EGGS. At 8.0, WHITTINGTON. (Last Nights.)

CRITERION.—LES PRES SAINT GERVAIS, &c.

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SURREY.—THE FLOWER GIRL.

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Office, 6 Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

PATRON, HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

PRESIDENT, H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., M.W.G.M.

AT A QUARTERLY GENERAL COURT of the Governors and Subscribers, held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn-fields, London, on MONDAY, the 12th day of April 1875, Bro. JOHN SYMONDS, V.-Pat., in the Chair, a ballot took place for the election of eight boys from an approved list of forty-eight candidates, when the following were declared to be successful:—

1. Davies, James Sanders ...	2,139	5. Buttrey, Jas. Armytage...	1,749
2. Armitage, Chas. Edgar...	1,841	6. Marks, Jas. Thos. ...	1,577
3. Swallow, John Tom ...	1,828	7. Jackson, Wm. Henry ...	1,599
4. Pilling, Thomas Smith ...	1,765	8. Kerr, Arthur David ...	1,554

The votes of the unsuccessful candidates will be carried to their credit at the election in October 1875. Lists of the candidates, with the votes polled for all, successful and unsuccessful, may be obtained on application at the Office, 6 Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.

FREDERICK BINCKES, Secretary.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.
APRIL ELECTION 1875.

THE W.M., Officers and Brethren of the ANGEL LODGE, No. 51, desire to return their best thanks to all those by whose kind support JAMES SANDERS DAVIES was Elected, at the head of the poll, on Monday last.

Mrs. DAVIES also wishes to express her thanks for the great kindness she has received during her canvass for Votes.

COLCHESTER, 14th April 1875.



67 BARBICAN, E.C.

WEEKLY SUMMARY.

ON Friday, in the House of Lords, the Lord Chancellor, in the course of a long speech, made known the course which the Government intended to pursue in connection with the Judicature Act of 1873, in consequence of the recent withdrawal of the Bill to extend to Scotland and Ireland its provisions for creating a Court of Appeal. His Lordship announced that a Bill would be brought in at once, and explained at length its various provisions. Lords Selborne, Penzance, and Hatherley having spoken, the Lord Chancellor introduced his Bill, which was then read a first time. On Monday, Earl Grey brought under the notice of the House the subject of the recent outbreak at Natal, and the case of King Langalabalele, and moved a resolution giving effect to his views. The Earls of Carnarvon, as Colonial Secretary, and of Kimberley, as ex-Colonial Secretary, took part in the debate, as did other noble Lords, among them being the Lord Chancellor. The result was a withdrawal of the motion. On Tuesday, the second reading of the Justices of the Peace Qualification was moved by the Earl of Albemarle, and agreed to, after a tolerably long discussion. On Thursday, the Duke of Richmond moved the second reading of the Agricultural Holdings (England) Bill. This was agreed to, after a lively debate, in which several of their Lordships, including the Duke of Somerset, the Earl of Malmesbury, the Duke of Argyll, and Earl Granville took part. The Lord Chancellor then laid on the table a Bill to amend the several Acts relating to County Courts, after which the House adjourned.

On Friday, the House of Commons discussed, as usual, a great variety of subjects, among them being the National Gallery, to which Mr. Beresford Hope called attention; the failure of the Bank of Bombay, on which Mr. Gregory moved a resolution, but was heavily beaten; Manning the Navy; and the Proposed College for Naval Cadets. When these were severally disposed of, the House went into Committee, and set itself seriously to the business of voting money in connection with the Navy Estimates. Tuesday was a regular field day of the old sort. Mr. C. Lewis moved a resolution to the effect that the publication in the *Times* and *Daily News* of the proceedings and evidence taken before the Select Committee of the House on Foreign Loans, on the 8th instant, was a breach of privilege. To this the House assented, without going to a division, but on

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the first of the further motions, that Mr. Francis Goodlake, printer of the *Times*, and Mr. William King Hales, printer of the *Daily News*, be summoned to the bar of the House on the Friday following, a very sharp debate ensued, which assumed somewhat of the character of a party fight. Mr. Lewis, however, with the aid of the Government, succeded in carrying both his motions; the first by 204 to 153, majority 51—and the second by 199 to 155. The Law of Slander, the Declaration of Paris, and the choice of the Select Committee on Banks of Issue occupied the rest of the sitting. On Wednesday afternoon, Sir J. Lubbock succeeded in carrying the second reading of his Ancient Monuments Bill, the object of which is to preserve interesting monuments of bygone days from the Vandalism of this and future generations. There was a strong opposition, but the second reading was agreed to, by 187 to 165, whereupon Mr. Raikes announced his intention of moving that it be referred to a hybrid committee. On Thursday, after the usual array of questions had been put and answered, the real business of the sitting was, most unfortunately, deferred to a later hour than usual, by a long and sharp debate, on a motion made by the Premier, that the Order for laying on the table a certain petition from Prittlewell, in Essex, presented by Colonel Makins, in connection with the Orton case, and impugning the conduct of the Speaker, be rescinded. Col. Makins explained how he had come unintentionally to present the said petition, and apologised for his oversight. Sir W. Lawson moved the previous question, which was ultimately negatived by 391 to 11, and the original motion was then carried. In the course of his remarks, Colonel Lloyd-Lindsay spoke very strongly on some remarks in the *Englishman*, of which Dr. Kenealy is the reputed Editor. Dr. Kenealy and Mr. Bright were also among the speakers, the latter challenging the hon. member for Stoke to bring forward in the House the question of which he had given notice, and which had been postponed from day to day. This, however, Dr. Kenealy declined to do until he found himself supported by a large number of petitions. The House of Commons then resolved itself into a Committee of ways and means, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer betook himself to the task of delivering his Budget speech before a very thin attendance of members. The Right Honourable gentleman's statement was in substance this: The income for the year just concluded had exceeded the estimate by nearly half-a-million, while the actual had also exceeded the estimated expenditure. For the year 1875-6 the estimated revenue was stated at £75,685,000 and the estimated expenditure at £75,266,000, thus leaving a surplus of over £400,000. Under these circumstances, only some very unimportant modifications or re-adjustments of taxation were possible. This statement was, of course, criticised by sundry speakers, Mr. Childers regarding the expected surplus as illusory. The resolutions with respect to the maintenance of the tea duty and Income-tax at the same rates as during the past year were then agreed to. The House resumed, and soon afterwards adjourned.

The season at both Opera Houses is now in full swing. At the Royal Italian Opera, on Saturday, Mozart's *Don Giovanni* was noticeable for the *début* of Madlle. Zaré Thalberg, whose singing and acting were a complete success. Madame Vilda sang the part of Donna Anna satisfactorily, Madlle. D'Angéri was an admirable Donna Elvira, while M. Maurel was the Don Giovanni. On Monday *La Favorita* was presented. Her Majesty's opened on Saturday with the performance of Beethoven's *Fidelio*, and what with Madlle. Titien's magnificent singing, and Sir Michael Costa's splendid direction, it is not to be wondered that the applause of the audience was both frequent and hearty—a happy augury for the continuance of success. On Tuesday, Flotow's *Marta* was given, and the performance of this most delightful opera, was all that could be desired. Among other attractions and matters of interest in the musical world, may be mentioned the second concert, on Monday, of the Philharmonic Society. Among the novelties must be particularly mentioned Raff's Symphony No. 3, "In the Forest," which was well received. On Saturday, the 137th Anniversary Festival of the Royal Society of Musicians of Great Britain, was held in Willis's Rooms, the Right Hon. the Earl of Beauchamp in the chair. This Society was established in 1738, for the maintenance of aged and distressed musicians, their widows and orphans. Handel bequeathed to it a sum of £1,000, Dr. Burne was an active supporter of it, and among Royal patrons may be mentioned George IV., Her Majesty, the Prince of Wales, and the Dukes of Cambridge and Edinburgh, who have always warmly supported its claims. Most of the eminent composers of the day were present, including Mr. G. Macfarren, Signor Vianesi, Herr Otto Goldschmidt, and Bro. Dan. Godfrey. After the usual loyal toasts, the chairman gave the toast of the evening, Success to the Society, which was drunk, with great enthusiasm. Lord Beauchamp's health was then drunk, and appropriately acknowledged. Later in the evening, the Treasurer's list of subscriptions was read, from which it appeared that £600, including a donation of one hundred guineas from the noble Earl in the chair, had been received during the past year. On Wednesday, after afternoon service in St. Paul's Cathedral, a meeting was held, by permision of the Dean, in the large room of the Chapter House, there being present the Bishop of Carlisle, Dr. Steggall (organist, Lincoln's Inn), Mr. George Cooper, (assistant organist, St. Paul's), Mr. W. H. Gladstone, M.P. and many others. The object was to present to Sir John Goss, who lately resigned, after a service of thirty years, the post of organist at St. Paul's, a deed relating to the establishment of an exhibition for chorister boys, at the Royal Academy of Music, this being the form which it had been decided the testimonial to Sir John should assume. Mr. John Hullah took the Chair, and the deed having been formally handed to Sir John Goss, the latter endeavoured to express the deep thanks felt for the honour done him. The meeting closed with the usual vote of thanks to the chairman.

By the death of Brunnow, at Darmstadt, on Monday, in the 79th year of his age, another of those great men who have played so important a part in this world's history has passed away. Baron Brunnow entered the diplomatic service as far back as 1818, during the Congress of Aix la-Chapelle. From 1820 to 1823 he was Secretary to the Russian Embassy in London, and, on his return to Russia, made two campaigns under General Woronzoff against the Turks. In 1840 he came again to this country to settle the Belgian question. He next succeeded Count Pozzo di Borgo, as Ambassador at the English Court, and he remained here till the outbreak of the Russian war in 1854. He returned to England as Ambassador in 1858, and only resigned his post in July of last year. On quitting England, he retired to his residence at Darmstadt, and here, as related, he died, a few days since; the Baroness Brunnow, so popular in London society for her hospitalities at the Russian Embassy, having died about twelve months previously.

On Saturday, the London Athletic Club held a meeting at Lillie Bridge, the Band of the 1st Lifeguards being present to enliven the proceedings. Only six events were decided, but the entries were very numerous, and the competitions very keenly contested. On Monday, the 26th instant, an exciting four-mile race, between W. Slade, the one mile champion, and J. Gibb, the four mile champion, may be expected. On May 8th, the L.A.C. will hold its next meeting, which, as the season will be then well advanced, will probably attract a large attendance of spectators.

The annual dinner in support of the funds of King's College Hospital was held on Wednesday evening, at King's College, Strand. H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge was in the chair, and wassupported by Lord Justice James, the Bishop of Winchester, Mr. G. H. Hubbard M.P., the Rev. the Principal of the College, Dr. Barry, Mr. R. Twining and other influential supporters of this admirable institution. The usual toasts were drunk, and in the course of the evening subscriptions amounting to £1,582 were announced, in addition to the £300 for the Samaritan Fund. The Duke of Cambridge, in proposing the toast of the evening, remarked that the amount expended for this hospital exceeded £12,000, of which £10,500 had to be provided by voluntary contributions. Considering the vast amount of good which King's College Hospital has effected, and the dense population of the district in which it is situate, it is certainly worthy of the liberal support of the public. At the sixty-sixth anniversary banquet of the Artists' Benevolent Fund, held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Wednesday, Mr. A. J. Beresford Hope M.P. took the chair. The toast of "Prosperity to the Society" was enthusiastically received, and subscriptions to the amount of about £600 were announced, including a donation of £100 from Her Majesty.

Abroad we hear of, first, rumours of war, followed immediately afterwards by rumours of a more peaceful character. But the situation has not materially altered since last week.

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We understand that at a Special Meeting of the Supreme Grand Council of England, assisted by the brethren of the 32°, 31°, and 30°, and the Illustrious Knights of the 32°, 31°, and 30°, held on the 14th inst., at Golden-square, the V.W. Bro. Lord Skelmersdale D.G.M. of England and Major General Brownrigg P.G.M. Surrey, were respectively exalted to the high degree of the K.H. Bro. the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, who was also to have been exalted, was unavoidably absent, owing to the circumstance of the train that conveyed his Lordship breaking down. The ceremonies were impressively worked by General Clarke, Chancellor of the Order, assisted by Bro. Major Shadwell Clerke. Bro. Willing, the organist, contributed to the solemnity by his admirable performance on the organ.

The Seamen's Hospital, Greenwich, is greatly in need of funds. Since the removal of the institution from the "Dreadnought" to the Infirmary of Greenwich Hospital the expenses have greatly increased. There being more accommodation on shore than there was afloat, many more patients are relieved, and £6,000 are required to pay the current expenses of each year. The total annual expenditure is upwards of £9,500, while the only reliable income derivable from investments is £3,500, thus the Hospital is dependent upon voluntary charity to the extent of £6,000 per annum. In 1874, there was a deficiency in the income, to meet the expenditure, of £2,000. We learn that last year 2,058 seamen were admitted to the institution, these men were from the various ports of the United Kingdom. It cannot, we think, be too widely known that the Hospital at Greenwich is the only institution of the kind in the country for the exclusive benefit of seamen. We confidently appeal to our readers on behalf of this great charity, and we are sure that they will not hold their hands, but will give liberally.

H.R.H the Duke of Connaught will be raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason in the Prince of Wales's Lodge, No. 259, on the 22nd inst., and H.R.H. Prince Leopold will be raised in the Apollo University Lodge, No. 257, Oxford, on the 17th inst., thus showing the interest they feel in our Order. It is to be hoped that the Royal Brothers will be present at the Installation of the M.W. Grand Master.

A warrant having been granted for a new Chapter, entitled the Priory, No. 1,000, it will be consecrated on Wednesday, the 21st inst., and Bro. Robert Wentworth Little, P.G.S. Middlesex, has consented to consecrate the Chapter and instal the principals, at Southend.

Not a few people will hasten to throw cold water, to use a common metaphor, on Captain Boyton's life-saving apparatus, because he failed to complete the passage between Dover and Boulogne in the manner prescribed. But this is almost as sensible a proceeding as it would have been to have sprinkled a cup of water on Captain Boyton when he was busy paddling his way across the Channel. The fact that he fell short by some miles of reaching the French coast, in no wise detracts from the merits of his apparatus, which has been proved already many times, and is acknowledged to be a complete success. We may even say it strengthens the high opinion already formed of his invention. He did not actually cross, because the weather and other circumstances were unfavourable. But he stayed in the water for fifteen hours, with only such an amount of inconvenience and fatigue to himself as an hour's rest enabled him to surmount. The experiment showed incontestably that Captain Boyton could progress by the aid of his sail and paddle, or without using either, in a somewhat tempestuous sea. He affirmed afterwards that he could have gone on for another ten or twelve hours, and from the various accounts we have seen there appears no reason to question his opinion. But the advice of those aboard the accompanying steamer was—wisely we think—adopted by the bold *voyageur*, though with the greatest reluctance; the representatives of the press, who were present to watch his progress, bearing willing testimony that he yielded to the advice of those in charge of him only when darkness was on the point of setting in, and most unwillingly. He was received with enthusiasm at Boulogne, whence he has since returned, with a determination to make another attempt to accomplish the journey. Yet we hope he will not lay too great a stress on this particular experiment, as the worth of the invention has been already demonstrated over and over again.

We are informed that a bust, in Parian marble, of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, as M.W.G.M., will be ready for publication by the 28th instant, the day fixed for the Installation. There is every reason to believe that the bust, which will be about 24 inches high, and will form a handsome ornament for the drawing-room or boudoir, will give the utmost satisfaction to those of the Craft who may desire to possess some souvenir of this interesting ceremonial. The price will be two guineas, and the profits will be shared among the three great Masonic Charities.

Bro. John Sweasey jun. announces his annual benefit for Wednesday, the 21st instant, at the Royal Music Hall, Holborn, when, in addition to the talented company, all the principal artistes in London will appear.

It is with deep regret we announce the death, at the early age of 36, of Bro. W. Seekings. Bro. Seekings was initiated in the Strawberry Hill Lodge, No. 946.

The Lord Warden Hotel, Dover, has been taken by Bro. W. Swainston, lately a Common Councilman of the City of London. During the many years Bro. Swainston held the latter office he earned for himself the esteem of his colleagues. He was proprietor for many years of the Bucks' Tavern in the Old Jewry, and here in company with Bros. Ex-under Sheriff Beard P.M. 101 and J. Emmens P.G.P. he was associated with a charitable society for providing coals for the poor. Doubtless the well-known activity and business habits of Bro. Swainston will be looked upon as a good augury of success in his new and important undertaking.

Any who have a vacant place in their album of Masonic worthies cannot do better than fill the vacancy with a copy of a recently-published carte de visite photograph of our respected Grand Secretary, Bro. John Hervey. Bro. Hervey is represented as wearing his numerous jewels and the insignia of office, and the likeness has been admirably taken. The publisher is Mr. T. P. Avery, 24 and 26 Ladbrooke Grove, nearly opposite the Notting Hill Station of the Metropolitan District Railway.

Obituary.

From the *Stalybridge Reporter* we learn the mournful tidings of the death of Brother T. H. Fleming, who died at Warrington, where, since he left Stalybridge, about twelve months since, he had been carrying on business as a bootmaker. Brother Fleming was a most energetic Mason, and was a P.M. of the Royal Edward Lodge, which holds its meetings at the Commercial Inn, Melbourne-street, Stalybridge.

It is only a few weeks since it was our painful duty to announce in these pages the death of brother the late Luke Evans, surgeon, of Stalybridge. Our respected brother the Rev. Thomas Floyd, who preached the funeral sermon on that melancholy occasion, expressed a wish that when he was called hence he might be spared a lingering illness. Those who heard this remark little thought how soon they would have to deplore the loss of the man to whom all then listened with such rapt attention. On Sunday, the 28th March, Bro. Floyd preached in his church, and on the following day he complained of being unwell. Dr. Sutcliffe was called in, and it was found he was suffering from inflammation of the bowels, but nothing of a serious nature was apprehended until Sunday morning, 4th April, when it was found that the inflammation had extended to the brain. Leeches and blisters, and other medical remedies were applied, but without avail, and great anxiety was felt at Mr. Floyd's condition during the morning. The anxiety was increased in the afternoon, when he was observed to be rapidly sinking. Human efforts could not avert the sad event, and he died. As a Freemason Bro. Floyd was admired and respected as being one of the foremost to help a brother to meet the reverses of fortune. He was always ready to throw a plank "to a sinking comrade," and many members of the Craft have reason to thank him for holding situations which they have secured through his letters of recommendation. He was made a member of the Moira Lodge, No. 324, held at the Wellington Hotel, Caroline-street, on the 13th of October 1852, and at that time his name was No 13 on the books. When he died he was No. 3, so that he was one of the oldest members of a Lodge into which he welcomed his friend, the Rev. Mr. MacDonna, the Rector of Cheadle, in the year 1859, when Bro Joseph Grayson, joiner, was the Worshipful Master. He was also a member of the Royal Arch Chapter, and Chaplain of his Lodge for many years. Brother John Storrs, the present W.M. of the Moira Lodge, issued a circular, inviting the brethren to join in the funeral procession, which took place on Friday, 9th April, when about 80 members of the Moira, the Fortitude, Prince Alfred, Royal Edward, Stamford and Warrington, and other Lodges of Freemasons attended, to pay a last tribute to the memory of their departed brother.

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DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be greatly obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the kingdom would favour us with a copy of their summonses each time of issue.

SATURDAY, 17th APRIL.

Audit Committee, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall.
715—Panmure, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
1364—Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Hackney.
1425—Hyde Park, 1 Craven-road, Paddington.

140—Peace, Masonic Hall, Meltham.
306—Prince George, Bottoms, Eastwood, Yorks.

MONDAY, 19th APRIL.

1—Grand Masters', Freemasons' Hall.
8—British, Freemasons' Hall.
21—Emulation, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
58—Felicity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
185—Tranquillity, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
720—Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham.
907—Royal Albert, Freemasons' Hall
1158—Marquis Dalhousie, Freemasons' Hall.
1301—Eclectic, Freemasons' Hall.

R. A. 13—Prudence, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.

54—Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Rochdale (Instruction.)
61—Probity, Freemasons' Hall, Halifax.
77—Freedom, Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend.
95—Faithful, Swan Inn, Harleston, Norfolk.
99—Unanimity, Astley Arms Hotel, Dukinfield.
103—Unanimity, King's Arms, North Walsham.
134—Union Lodge of Mark Masters, Masonic Hall, Sunderland.
139—Britannia, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
264—Nelson of the Nile, Freemasons' Hall, Batley.
295—King's Friends, Lamb Inn, Nantwich.
302—Hope, Masonic Hall, Bradford.
307—Prince Frederick, White Horse Hotel, Hebden Bridge.
406—Three Graces, Haworth, Yorks.
434—Borough Lodge, Masonic Hall, Gateshead.
467—Tudor, Red Lion Hotel, Oldham.
615—Unity, Masonic Hall, Stockport.
709—Clifton, Clifton Arms Hotel, Blackpool.
721—Independence, Bar's Hotel, Chester.
872—Lewis, Masonic Hall, Whitehaven.
941—De Tabley, Royal George Hotel, Knutsford.
1030—Egerton, Heaton Norris, near Stockport.
1170—St. George, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
1414—Thornhill, Masonic Room, Dearn House, Lindley, Yorks.

R. A. 33—Jerusalem, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
R. A. 139—Paradise, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
R. A. 210—Faith, Nottingham Castle Inn, Denton.
R. A. 827—St. John's, Masonic Temple, Dewsbury.
K. T.—Prince of Peace, Bull Hotel, Preston.

TUESDAY, 20th APRIL.

Board of General Purposes, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.
30—United Mariners, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.
162—Cadogan, Freemasons' Hall.
194—St. Paul's, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
435—Salisbury, Freemasons' Hall.

R. A. 19—Mount Sinai, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
R. A. 186—Industry, Freemasons' Hall.

51—Angel, Three Cups Hotel, Colchester.
87—Humber, Freemasons' Hall, Hull.
126—Silent Temple, Cross Keys Inn, Burnley.
178—Antiquity, Royal Hotel, Wigan.
310—Union, Masonic Rooms, Carlisle.
373—Socrates, George Hotel, High Street, Huntingdon.
448—St. James', Freemasons' Hall, Halifax.
897—Loyalty, Fleece Inn, St. Helens.
979—Four Cardinal Virtues, Crewe Arms Hotel, Crewe.
986—Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston.
1042—Excelsior, Freemasons' Hall, Leeds.
1061—Triumph, Market Hotel, Lytham.
1075—St. Mangbold, Masonic Rooms, Ramsey.
1186—Clarendon, Queen's Hotel, Hyde.
1214—Scarborough, Station Hotel, Boothill, Batley.
1256—Fidelity, Black Bull, Poulton.
1276—Warren, Stanley Arms, Seacombe.

K. T.—United Preceptory, &c., Palatine Hotel, Manchester.

WEDNESDAY, 21st APRIL.

General Committee, Grand Chapter, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.
Lodge of Benevolence, Freemasons' Hall, at 6.
Grand Stewards' Lodge, Freemasons' Hall.
174—Sincerity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham Street.
190—Oak, Freemasons' Hall
700—Nelson, Masonic Hall, William Street, Woolwich.
969—Maybury, Freemasons' Hall.
1044—Wandsworth, Spread Eagle Hotel, Wandsworth.
1150—Buckingham and Chandos, Freemasons' Hall.
1349—Friars, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars.
1382—Corinthian, George Inn, Glengall Road, Isle of Dogs.

R. A. 192—Lion and Lamb, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
R. A. 820—Lily Chapter of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond.
R. A. 857—St. Mark's, Half Moon Tavern, Herne Hill
R. A. 13-5—St. Marylebone, British Stores, New Street, St. John's Wood.

20—Royal Kent Lodge of Antiquity, Sun Tavern, Chatham.
128—Prince Edwin, Bridge Inn, Bolton-street, Bury.
146—Antiquity, Bull's Head Inn, Bolton.
210—Duke of Athol, Nottingham Castle Inn, Denton.
240—St. Hilda, Freemasons' Hall, South Shields.
266—Naphtali, Masonic Rooms, Market-place, Heywood.
274—Tranquillity, Boar's Head Inn, Newchurch, near Manchester.
288—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Todmorden.
290—Huddersfield, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield.
324—Moira, Wellington Inn, Stalybridge.
363—Keystone, New Inn, Whitworth.
387—Airdale, Masonic Hall, Westgate, Shipley.
533—Eaton, Bull's Head, Congleton.
537—Zetland, Masonic Chamber, Birkenhead.
581—Faith, Drover's Inn, Openshaw.
603—Yarborough, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
750—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Cleckheaton, Yorks.
823—Everton, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
934—Merit, Church Inn, Whitefield.
982—Sun and Sector, Portland-square, Workington.
1019—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Wakefield.
1070—Starkie, Black Horse, Kirkham.
1086—Walton, Masonic Hall, Kirkdale,

WEDNESDAY, 21st APRIL—continued.

1120—St. Chad, Roebuck Hotel, Rochdale.
1161—De Grey and Ripon, Corporation Hotel, Ardwick.
1182—Duke of Edinburgh, Coffee House, Waverтree.
1301—Brighouse, Masonic Rooms, Brighouse, Yorks.
1334—Norman, Freemasons' Hall, Durham.
1346—Victoria, Cross Keys Hotel, Eccles.
1353—Duke of Lancaster, Athenæum, Lancaster.

R. A. 135—Hotspur, Freemasons' Hall, Alnwick.
R. A. 344—Beauty, Bull's Head Inn, Radcliffe Bridge.
R. A.—Lebanon, Royal Hotel, Prescot.

THURSDAY, 22nd APRIL.

House Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
66—Grenadiers, Freemasons' Hall.
856—South Middlesex, Beaufort Hotel, Fulham.
871—Royal Oak, White Swan Tavern, High Street, Deptford.

78—Imperial George, Assheton Arms Hotel, Middleton.
96—St. Martin's, Board Room, Town Hall, Burslem.
100—Friendship, Crown and Anchor Hotel, Great Yarmouth.
213—Mona, Masonic Rooms, Castletown.
215—Commerce, Commercial Inn, Healingden.
269—Fidelity, White Bull Hotel, Blackburn.
275—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield.
289—Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
346—United Brethren, Royal Oak Inn, Clayton-le-Dale.
348—St. John, Bull's Head Inn, Bolton.
350—Charity, Grapes Inn, Stoneclough.
361—Industry, Norfolk Arms, Hyde.
367—Probity and Freedom, Bull's Head Inn, Smallbridge, near Rochdale.
369—Limestone Rock, Swan Hotel, Clitheroe.
439—Scientific, Private Room, Bingley.
462—Accrington, Hargreaves Hotel, Accrington.
594—Downshire, 90 Duke Street, Liverpool.
935—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Salford.
950—Hesketh, Fleetwood Hotel, Fleetwood.
971—Trafalgar, Commercial-street, Batley, Yorks.
1032—Townley Parker, Howard's Arms Hotel, Whittle-Springs.
1125—St. Peter's, Masonic Hall, Tiverton.
1156—Oak Wood, Romiley Arms, Romiley.
1418—Fraternity, Freemasons' Hall, Stockton-on-Tees.
1459—Ashbury, Justice Birch Hotel, Hyde-road, West Gorton, near Manchester.

R. A. 116—Cana, Swan Hotel, Colne.
R. A. 208—Three Grand Principles, Masonic Hall, Dewsbury.
R. A. 241—Sacred Delta, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
R. A. 307—Good Intent, White Horse, Hebden Bridge, near Halifax.
R. A. 434—De Burghi, Freemasons' Hall, Gateshead.

FRIDAY, 23rd APRIL.

House Committee, Boys' School, at 4.
197—Jerusalem, Freemasons' Hall.
569—Fitzroy, Head Quarters, Hon. Artillery Company.
861—Finsbury, Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton.

113—St. George's, Masonic Hall, Exeter.
319—Prudence, Masonic Hall, Todmorden.
401—Royal Forest, Hark-to-Bounty Inn, Skaldburn, Yorks.
652—Holme Valley, Victoria Hotel, Holmfirth.
1034—Eccleshill, Freemasons' Hall, Eccleshill, Yorks.
1102—Mirfield, Assembly Rooms, Mirfield.

R. A. 690—Sefton, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
K. T.—De Furnival, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.

SATURDAY, 24th APRIL.

1462—Wharncliffe, Rose and Crown Hotel, Penistone.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY.—44.—St. Luke, Freemasons' Hall.
TUESDAY.—36.—St. David, Ship Hotel, East Register Street.
405.—Rifle, Freemasons' Hall.
WEDNESDAY.—160.—Roman Eagle, Iona Hotel, 62 Nicholson Street.
THURSDAY.—302.—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Mount Lebanon Chapter, No. 73.—A convocation of this Chapter and Installation Meeting was held on the 8th inst., at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark. Comps. Harriss Z., F. Walters P.Z. as H., H. A. Dubois J., T. J. Sabine P.Z. Treasurer, C. A. Cottebrune P.Z. and W. Smeed P.Z.; J. A. Baldwin P.S., B. Isaac 1st Assistant, G. J. Lowe, &c. The Chapter was opened, and the minutes of the former convocation were read and confirmed. The report of the Audit Committee was read and confirmed. Ballots were taken for the admission of Bros. Maturin, Snowden and Brown, who were unanimously elected, and duly exalted into Royal Arch Masonry by Comp. W. Smeed, whose working of this ceremony is so well known that it requires no comment; he then performed the ceremony of Installing Comps. H. Dubois H. and J. W. Baldwin J. (the M.E.Z. elect, Bro. Batten, being unavoidably absent through ill health), T. J. Sabine was re-elected Treasurer, and F. Walters P.Z. was re-elected for the ninth time, M. D. Loewenstark was appointed S.N., B. Isaac P.S., A. Brown 1st Assistant, W. Maturin 2nd Assistant. Several candidates were proposed for exaltation. The Chapter was then closed, and the Companions partook of a very excellent banquet, provided by Bro. Spencer. The several toasts usually given and duly responded to followed, and the Companions after passing an agreeable evening separated. Comps. C. Horsley P.Z., M. Scott, J. W. Halsey P.Z. 507, and Keeble 79, were present as visitors.

St. John's Lodge, No. 90.—The last regular meeting this Lodge took place on Monday, 12th instant, at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate Street. In the absence of the W.M., Bro Wetherell, the Chair was taken by the Treasurer, Bro. I. Eglese P.M. Bro. W. R. Snelling S.W., W. W. Venn J.W., J. Griffin P.M. 3c W. R. Stephens P.M. D.C., W. Stormer S.D., T. N. Smith J.D., B J. A. Allison as I.G. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. The Lodge was opened in 2nd degree, and

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Creswell, having answered the usual questions, was entrusted and retired. The Lodge was opened in 3rd degree, and Bro. Creswell was raised to the sublime degree. The Lodge was resumed in 1st degree, and the brethren proceeded to ballot for the privilege of being admitted to the ceremony of the Installation of the Prince of Wales as M.W.G.M. The successful brother was Bro. T. N. Smith J.D. There were a goodly muster of brethren present, viz.: Bro. J. Kelsay, G. Thorne, W. Rathbone, W. P. Brown, P. Coard, W. K. Henderson, W. P. Margetson, W. Colpoys, J. Pearce, J. A. Meyrick, and J. L. Cross. Amongst the visitors were Bro. Coard jun., Bro. Moller, a member of a Swedish Lodge, and several others. The Lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned to banquet, and spent a very pleasant and social evening together. Bros. Moller and Coard jun. returned thanks for the visitors.

Vitruvian Lodge, No. 87.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, 14th inst., at Bro. Frampton's, White Hart, College Street, Lambeth. Present E. Thurkle W.M., B. Clegg S.W., C. Walter J.W., J. G. Bond P.M. Treasurer, W. Stuart P.M. Secretary, H. T. T. Ross S.D., A. Timothy J.D., C. Nott I.G. P.M.'s Noke, Whiting, Morris, Hull, Jolly, &c. and about 40 other brethren. The Lodge was opened in the first degree, and the minutes confirmed. The Lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bros. Ireland, Wood, Talputt, Dale and Benn, having been entrusted, retired. The Lodge was opened in the third degree, and the above brethren were raised to the sublime degree of M.M.'s. The Lodge was resumed to the first degree, and Bro. Gantlett having answered the usual questions, retired. The Lodge was resumed to the second degree, and Bro. Gantlett was passed to the degree of a F.C. The Lodge again resumed to the first degree, and a ballot was taken for Mr. John Shillton, which proved unanimous in his favour, and he, being in attendance, was initiated in the ancient mysteries. The Lodge then closed, and the brethren separated. This was the first meeting since the installation, and the working of the three degrees by the W.M. was faultless. The fifteen sections will be worked by the brethren of this Lodge on Thursday, 29th inst.

Alexandria and Bonhill Chapter, No. 121 (S.C.)—On Tuesday, the 14th instant, this long dormant Chapter was resuscitated, at Alexandria, Vale of Leven, after a slumber of seven years. The Supreme Chapter, through the Grand Scribe E., had entrusted this duty to Comp. Duthie, Z. of 67, Glasgow, who, with the assistance of G. W. Wheeler, Z. 73, G. Thallon, Z. 119, and H. J. Shields P.Z., very ably performed the duties. The meeting took place in the Public Hall, and Comps. Duthie as Z., Wheeler H., Thallon J., and Shields S.E. proceeded, after the customary formalities, to instal the new officers of the Chapter, of whom the following is the list:—P. Jardine Z., D. McGregor H., J. McLeish (Master of the Croft Lodge) J., D. Gordon S.E., J. McLeish jun. S.N., A. Graham 1st S., Wm. Carlyle 2nd S., A. Primrose 3rd S., and A. Steurt Janitor. The energy displayed by the three Principlers in reopening the Chapter was freely spoken of, and, to show their aptitude for work, a Lodge of Mark Masters was opened at once, and Bros. Michel, Barclay, Peter McKenzie and Robert Lawrie received that degree at the hands of Bro. G. W. Wheeler. A Lodge of Excellent Masters was then opened by Comp. Duthie, with G. Thallon as S.W., and D. McGregor as J.W., when the same three gentlemen were duly initiated in that degree. The Holy Royal Arch Chapter was again opened, with J. Duthie as Z., G. Thallon as H., H. J. Shields as J., and G. W. Wheeler as Principle Sojourner, his 2nd and 3rd being the Sojourners of the Chapter, Comps. Graham and Primrose. Bros. Barclay, McKenzie and Lawrie were then duly exalted to the Holy Royal Arch degree. The Z. of 121, Comp. P. Jardine, thanked Comps. Duthie and his friends, not only for coming so many miles to re-open their Chapter, and instal its officers, but also for the excellent specimens of work they had shown them. Comps. McLeish and McGregor proposed that the four members of the deputation from Glasgow should be made honorary members, and Comp. Jardine proceeded to affiliate them. Comps. Duthie and Wheeler suitably acknowledged the honour paid to them, and expressed themselves proud to be able to forward the cause of Royal Arch Masonry. The Chapter was then closed, all being highly pleased with the result of the evening's labours, which, we trust, will give a new impetus to the Order in Dumbartonshire.

Prudent Brethren Chapter, No. 145.—A Convocation of this celebrated Chapter met on Tuesday, the 13th inst., at Freemasons' Hall. Comps. Walford Z., Long H., T. Bull J., J. Last P.Z. Treasurer, G. S. States P.Z. S.E., W. Platt P.Z. as S.E., Parkins P.S.E.H., Thiellay 1st Assistant, J. Cox 2nd Assistant, and P.Z.'s J. Boyd, H. Dicketts, Warrington; Manby, Davies, Balphager, Wilkinson, Grant, Rance, J. R. Stedwell, Benn, &c. The Chapter was opened, and the minutes of the former Convocation were confirmed. A ballot was then taken for the admission of Bro. J. Chinnery, No. 145, who was, by the courtesy of the M.E.Z., duly exalted into Royal Arch Masonry by Comp. Long P.Z. 742 and H. of his Chapter, assisted by Comps. J. Boyd P.Z., and J. Bull J., whose working deserves especial commendation. The M.E.Z. then occupied the chair and in feeling terms presented Comp. H. Dicketts P.Z with a very elegant solid gold P.Z.'s jewel, with suitable inscription, for the able manner he had conducted the duties of the chair. He had merited the esteem and regard of every Companion in the Chapter, and in placing the medal on his breast he hoped he might long live to wear it. Comp. H. Dicketts P.Z.; in suitable terms, returned thanks for the valuable gift. The Chapter was then closed until December, and the Companions sat down to a very excellent banquet, provided by Bro. Francatelli and superintended by Bro. Knill. The usual loyal and Royal Arch toasts were given. The toast of the M.E.Z. was proposed by Comp. H. Dicketts P.Z., and was heartily responded to. The toast of the newly exalted Comp., J. Chinnery, was given. The Companions present knew him in connection with Lodge 145, and all present were pleased to meet him. The toast of the visitors was then proposed. It was a source of great gratification to hear from those Companions the deserved encomiums on the perfect working of the Chapter, more particularly that portion of the ceremony, so seldom given, that found on this occasion so able an exponent in Comp. J. Boyd. The several officers returned thanks, and expressed the gratification they had received in the Chapter. The M.E.Z. then said he had a very important toast to propose, and that was, that of the P.Z.'s. This Chapter was but young, but those Companions were the real pillars, for they upheld the Lodge, and every office required of them they were not only able, but also willing to fulfil; he mentioned the services rendered to the Chapter by Comp. J. Boyd, in various capacities, H. Dicketts I.P.Z., Warrington; J. Last, and G. S. States. Comp. Warrington returned thanks. The M.E.Z., in proposing the toast of the H. and J., complimented those Comps. on their perfect working of the ceremonies. The M.E.Z. then said he had to propose a very important toast. No Chapter could really succeed without the aid of a Treasurer, and with the name of that official he would couple those of the S.E., Comps. J. Last, and G. S. States, for however perfect the working of a Chapter may be, those officers were really the custodians of the funds, which he, the M.E.Z., was happy to say were in a flourishing state. Both Companions returned thanks for the toast, the former stating that his time and energy were at their services, and the Charities would receive his special care, as well as the interests of the Chapter. The toast of the P.S. followed, and the M.E.Z. paid him a just and deserved compliment. For so young a member he had discharged his duties with credit to himself and satisfaction to the Chapter, and the same meed of praise was also due to Comps. E. H. Thiellay and Cox. The Janitor's toast was given, and the Companions separated. The harmony of the evening was contributed to with great satisfaction by the M.E.Z., Comps. D. H. Jacobs, and Platt. The visitors were Comps. G. E. Paris 742, J. H. Leggott 1056, D. H. Jacobs 657, J. C. Mather 23, and H. M. Levy M.E.Z. 188.

Lodge of Justice, No. 147.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held at the White Swan Inn, High Street, Deptford, on Wednesday, 14th inst., Bro. J. Roper in the chair. Bros. Andrews P.M. S.W., Speight J.W., Bartlett P.M. Treasurer, G. Chapman P.M. Secretary, Waterman S.D., Church J.D., T. Partington I.G.; Past Masters, G. Bolton, Batt, Patey, Cavell. Bros. Hurdle, Knowles, Pitt, Scott, Holloway, Chappell, and several others. Visitors, Bros. Storrer, Dingle W.M. 169, Debac S.W. 169. Bro. Lane, Collector to the R. M. B. I. for Aged Freemasons and the Widows of Freemasons. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Messrs. J. W. Batchelor and G. Gardner, which proved unanimous, and these gentlemen being in attendance were initiated accordingly. Bros. Clarke, Banks, and Chapman, having answered the usual questions, retired, and the Lodge being opened in 2nd degree were passed to the F.C. degree. Bro. Freeman having answered the usual questions, was entrusted and retired. The Lodge was opened in the 3rd degree, and Bro. Freeman was raised. The Lodge was resumed to 1st degree. It was resolved that the Ticket for admission to the Albert Hall on the 28th instant should be balloted for amongst those Master Masons who wished to be present on that occasion, the P.M.'s and Officers to see that done. The Lodge was then closed, and adjourned till October, emergencies excepted.

Temple Lodge of Mark Master Masons, No. 174.—The members of this Lodge met on Monday, the 12th inst., at the Green Dragon, Stepney. Bro. Charles Lacy W.M. presided. There were also present Bros. G. Verry S.W., E. Gottheil J.W., T. Mortlock P.M. acting as M.O., Swan S.O., Moull I.O., J. Hood Hon. Sec., Cundick J.D., Christian as I.G., Grant Tyler. Bro. Prestage was advanced to the degree. This being an off night, the brethren, after partaking of slight refreshment, separated at a very early hour.

Jerusalem Chapter, No. 185.—A Convocation of the above Chapter met at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, on the 13th inst. Companions Smith M.E.Z., Watts P.Z. as H., Hammond as J., and P.Z.'s Holbrook, Loewenstark, and J. D. Davage. The Chapter was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Comp. Smith was installed Z., Hammond H., and Elsam J., by Comp. Watts P.Z. The newly installed M.E.Z. then appointed his officers, viz. Comps. J. D. Davage S.E., Wagner S.N., P. Robinson P.S., E. Harfeld P.Z. Treasurer, Honeywall 1st Asst., Manders 2nd Asst. Bros. Watts and Sumner were exalted, and the Chapter was closed. A banquet followed, provided by Bro. Francatelli. The toasts characteristic of Loyalty and Royal Arch Masonry were given, and met with their usual hearty responses. The toasts of the M.E.Z., P.Z., and officers followed, and a very enjoyable evening ensued. Comp. H. M. Levy P.Z. 188 was present as a visitor.

Lodge of Tranquillity, No. 185.—An emergency meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, the 12th instant, at the Terminus Hotel, Cannon Street, E.C. There were present Bros. J. H. Ross W.M., J. D. Barnett S.W., D. Posener J.W., John Constable I.P.M. John Peartree Treasurer, P. Levy Secretary, Pares S.D., Bilby Org., Bailey J.D., Croker I.G., Vesper Tyler, also Past Masters N. Moss, Bloomfield, Sidney, M. Harris, E. Gottheil, and a number of other brethren. During the evening Bro. Downing was raised to the third degree, and Bro. Juniper passed to the second. Both ceremonies being worked by the W.M. with remarkable efficiency. After a very pleasant little repast, served by Bro. Silver, the various toasts were briefly disposed of. The name of H.R.H. the M.W.G.M. was received with loyal enthusiasm. In proposing the health of the Past

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Masters, the W.M. compared some of the elder ones to opulent city merchants, who, after many years' close application, have reached the time when they, fairly entitled to more frequent ease and leisure, drop in occasionally to see that the affairs of the house are managed with accustomed regularity, and its prestige is in no way diminished. Past Master Sidney, whose name was coupled with this toast, replied by expressing his sincere thanks for the manner in which the names of the P.M.'s had been proposed and received, and assured the brethren that although a variety of circumstances and business avocations prevented some of the Past Masters from attending their Lodge duties as frequently as they desired, still they might rest satisfied they, the P.M.'s, had always their eye upon them, which is proved by the fact that whenever any question of intrinsic importance occurs, the P.M.'s are found at their post, ready with such counsel and advice as they are able to offer; often disregarded, it is true, but frequently found to have been wise and just by the ultimate result. The proceedings were enlivened with some excellent songs, by Bros. Child, Bilby, Bailey and the W.M., the latter causing great [illegible] sang composed by Bro. Constable, in which occur pithy allusions to interesting current events and individual references to conspicuous members of the lodge.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—While many Lodges of Instruction, founded under favourable auspices, die after a few years of precarious existence, and a variety of circumstances compel others to suspend work from time to time, this Lodge has held its ground without interruption since its establishment in 1856. The founders were men whose names are well known in the Craft, viz. Robert Frotit, Jas. Jackson, Robt. Brewer, Wm. Newnham, James Brett, Robt. Johnson, Michael Haydon, John Allen, Rob. Maddison, and Ab. Loewenstark. In the course of its career it has been the school in which a great number of eminent brethren have perfected themselves in their duties, and by their well-known abilities have secured for it a prestige very few Lodges enjoy. The great principles upon which Freemasonry rests have ever been kept steadily in view, and practically exemplified by the subscription of upwards of £150 to the various Masonic institutions. At the last meeting, on Wednesday, the 14th inst., held at Bro. Chard's, White Hart Tavern, Abchurch Lane, E.C., Bro. T. Walker acted as W.M., J. T. Miller S.W., J. Blackall J.W., W. C. Hollands S.D., J. Berry I.G., E. Gottheil Preceptor, John Constable Treas., and Pitt Sec. There were also present Bros. C. C. Taylor P.M. 141, Hickman W.M. 180, and a number of the regular attendants. The second degree was rehearsed, the officers doing their work intelligently and proficiently. Several of the sections were worked, after which it was announced that the fifteen sections will be worked in this Lodge on the 12th of May, commencing at half-past six p.m. Bro. Crawley P.M. 174 will preside on that occasion. Bro. Gottheil, the Preceptor of this Lodge, is always at his post, and willing to assist the younger brethren who may be anxious to acquire the necessary knowledge to qualify them for the higher positions towards which they aspire; and he has a very able coadjutor in Bro. John Constable, who is ever ready with his invaluable services to aid any one who may desire them. "Seek and ye shall find."

Strawberry Hill Lodge, No. 946. — The installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, the 14th inst., at the Grotto Hotel, Cross Deep, Twickenham. Bro. W. Waghorn W.M. in the chair, supported by the Wardens, Bro. J. R. Stedwell P.M. P.P.G.W. Middlesex Treasurer, W. Platt P.M. Secretary, P.M.'s Whitley, McIllwham, Faithfull, Smith, W. Smeed, Kipling, and a numerous assemblage of brethren and visitors. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed, and Bro. W. H. Röhrs was raised to the third degree, the W.M. performing that ceremony impressively. A ballot was taken for the admission of Bro. Woodman, Star Lodge, No. 1257, which was unanimously in his favour, and he was duly elected. A board of installed masters was then formed, and Bro. J. Hayward was presented to the members by Bro. W. Waghorn I.P.M., and he was duly installed into the chair by W. Smeed P.M. On the admission of the brethren, the newly installed W.M. invested his officers, viz., Bros. W. Waghorn I.P.M., Johnson S.W., Wolgemuth J.W., J. R. Stedwell P.M. Treasurer, W. Platt P.M. Secretary, T. Price S.D., Nicoll J.D., J. M. Cooke I.G., Woodman D.C., Riley Tyler. The appointment of those brethren who had been assigned to fill the various offices gave great satisfaction. The veteran Bro. Riley, on being invested as Tyler, gave the usual sword exercise. A communication was received from Bro. Col. F. Burdett P.G.M. Middlesex regretting that other engagements prevented him being present. Bro. W. Smeed moved, and it was carried, that a dinner should take place on the occasion of H.R.H. being installed as M.W.G.M.; and it was proposed that a vote of condolence should be sent to the widow of the late Bro. Seekings. The newly installed W.M. then presented Bro. W. Waghorn with a very elegant gold Past Master's jewel, for the able manner he had conducted the duties of his office, and as a mark of the esteem he is held in by every brother in the Lodge; he hoped he might be spared to wear it, and render his valuable services to the brethren. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a very excellent banquet, provided by Bro. Powell. After the cloth had been removed, the W.M. gave the usual Loyal and Masonic Toasts. He alluded to the illustrious Brother who was to be installed M.W.G.M., and who would be the future King of England. The W.M. then rose and proposed the toast of the R.W. the P.G.M. of Middlesex, and regretted his absence. Bro. Whitley P.M. and P.P.G.S. returned thanks for the toast. Bro. Waghorn, in very eloquent terms, proposed the toast of the W.M., who he said was one only to be known to be respected. The W.M. in responding, said, a few years ago he never expected to occupy the chair, but during his occupation of that important office, his great aim would be to do all he could for the benefit of the Lodge. The toast of the visitors was next given. The W.M. in proposing the toast of the Past Masters paid them a very just compliment for their working, and also for the admirable manner in which Bro. Smeed had performed the ceremony of installation. Bro. W. Waghorn I.P.M. returned thanks for the toast. The toast of the Treasurer and Secretary was responded to by Bros. J. R. Stedwell P.M., and W. Platt. The toasts of the Wardens and the Tyler concluded a very agreeable evening. During the evening Bros. Arnold, Frost, Dr. J. Pope, Dodson, &c. contributed to the harmony. The visitors were Bros. G. Arnold 1326, G. Simpson 93, H. Frost, 594, S. Hoskins 212, W. Sheard 1366, R. Turner P.M. 795, J. R. Gallant 813, R. W. Little P.G.S. Middlesex, Secretary Girls' School, H. M. Levy P.M. 188, W. Dobson 72, T. S. Darke P.M. 1275, F. Hampen P.M. 27.

Era Lodge, No. 1423.—This rapidly increasing Lodge met on Saturday, the 10th inst., at the King's Arms Hotel, Hampton Court. Bros. J. W. Baldwin W.M., E. H. Thiellay S.W., J. Baxter Langley J.W., F. Walters P.G.P. (Middlesex) P.M. Secretary, E. W. Devereux S.D., S. Woolf J.D., A. F. Loos I.G., B. Wright D.C., W. A. Simmons W.S., and H. Dubois P.G.A.D.C. (Middlesex), &c. The Lodge having been opened, Bros. Chartress and J. Brogden 1326 were raised to the 3rd degree, and J. A. Moore was passed to the 2nd degree. The W.M. then initiated Mr. Arthur Rumbelow. Bro. F. Walters P.M. then occupied the chair—by the courtesy of the W.M.—and initiated Mr. W. Eagle. The working of the various degrees was admirably rendered. The W.M. then resumed the chair, and the Lodge was closed. Refreshments followed. The visitors were Bros. W. Hammond P.G.S. (Middlesex) and W.M. 1326, H. Keeble P.M. 1275, E. J. Drew 1269, and J. Brogden 1326.

Halsey Lodge, No. 1479.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held at the Town Hall, St. Albans, on Wednesday, 14th April, when a large attendance of members assembled. The W.M., Bro. John Lowthin, presided, and was supported by his officers:—H. Edwards S.W., G. Askew J.W., Arthur Godson S.D., &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were read and confirmed. A board of installed Masters was then formed, and the W.M. elect, Bro. George Askew, was introduced, and duly installed by the retiring W.M., Bro. J. Lowthin. At the conclusion of the ceremony, and on the admission of the brethren, the new W.M. was saluted according to ancient custom. He then invested his officers as follow: Bro. Arthur Godson S.W., I. N. Edwards J.W., John Parrott S.D., Kent J.D., J. Reynolds D.C., Robert Blakey W.S., W. Marks I.G., Debenham Secretary, Palin Treasurer, and Kirby Tyler. A P.M.'s jewel was presented to the retiring W.M. for the able and efficient manner in which he had conducted the duties of his office. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Peahen, where a most *recherché* banquet was supplied by Bro. Marks, and which was done ample justice to by those assembled. After the cloth had been removed, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, and the proceedings were enlivened by some excellent songs, which were capitally rendered by Bros. J. Reynolds, Lowthin, J. Garrett, Marks, &c. Amongst the visitors were Bros. T. S. Carter W.M. 403, B. Turner W.M. 183, J. Garrett P.M. 183, Keller, W. Brown, &c.

Francis Burdett Lodge, No. 1503.—The meeting of this rapidly increasing Lodge—being its sixth meeting since its consecration—took place on the 14th inst., and was held at the King's Arms, Hampton Hill. Bro. Col. Wigginton, the first Master, being in the chair; Bro. Saunders S.W., Bro. C. Horsley P.G.R. (Middlesex) as J.W., Bro. Dr. Naggs Secretary. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. The work consisted of one passing, and one raising. These ceremonies were perfectly rendered by the W.M. It was then carried unanimously that the Lodge be removed to the Albany Hotel, Twickenham, the consent of the R.W.G.M. Bro. Col. Burdett P.G.M. Middlesex, having been obtained. Bro. C. Horsley P.M. then proposed that the oldest initiated member of the Lodge should be the representative at the installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and Bro. Dr. Naggs was elected to be present on the occasion. It was then announced that Bro. Chalmers I. Paton, of Edinburgh, had most kindly presented the Lodge with a number of works, to form the nucleus of a lending library for the benefit of the Lodge; this gave great satisfaction to every member present; it was also announced that permission for a Lodge of Instruction, hailing from the Parent Lodge, should be applied for, to be held at the Albany Hotel, Twickenham. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the hospitable mansion of Col. Wigginton, where a very sumptuous repast awaited them. Bro. Charles Horsley, during the evening, embodied the sentiments of those who had had the honour and pleasure of receiving invitations, by proposing the health of their host and that of his family, which having been duly responded to, the brethren separated, after enjoying a very delightful evening.

CURIOSITY.—It is a very general opinion among Masons that a candidate should not be actuated by curiosity in seeking admission into the Order. But, in fact, there is no regulation nor landmark on the subject. An idle curiosity is, it is true, the characteristic of a weak mind. But to be influenced by a laudable curiosity to penetrate the mysteries of an Institution venerable for its antiquity and its universality, is to be controlled by a motive which is not reprehensible. There are, indeed, in legends of the high degrees, some instances where curiosity is condemned; but the curiosity, in these instances, led to an intrusion into forbidden places, and is very different from the curiosity or desire for knowledge which leads a profane to seek fairly and openly an acquaintance with mysteries which he has already learned to respect.—*Mackey*.

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MONEY MARKET AND CITY NEWS.

FRIDAY.

THE report of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, for the year 1874, shows that the net profit amounted to £67,260, which is distributed as follows:—£40,000 by dividends amounting to 10 per cent. per annum, £20,000 added to reserve fund, and £7,260 carried forward.

The balance sheet of the Bank of Victoria, submitted at the 44th half-yearly meeting, shows a net balance of £61,315, out of which a dividend and bonus, equal to 12 per cent. per annum, was recommended, £5,000 was written off Bank Premises account, £15,000 carried to reserve fund, and the balance, £11,315, carried forward.

The report of the Bank of Constantinople for the year 1874 shows a profit equal to about £160,000; a dividend of 6 per cent. has already been distributed, and another of 12 per cent., making 18 per cent. for the year, is recommended. The Bank has paid to its shareholders, during the 2½ years it has been in existence dividends amounting to 43 per cent.

The profit (subject to audit) of the Lima Railways Company Limited, for 1874, is stated to be £58,400. Of this, £32,000 has been absorbed by an interim dividend of 4 per cent., and the board intend recommending at the annual meeting a further distribution of 3 per cent. (making 7 per cent. for the year), which will leave a balance of £2,400 to be carried forward.

A dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum is recommended by the St. Andrew's Railway Company for the half year ending 31st January last, leaving a balance of £123.

The report of the Demerara Railway Company shows that the net profit for the half year amounted to £8,944, out of which a dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum is recommended on the original stock, leaving £540 to be carried forward.

Meetings were held, on the 9th inst., of the Rio de Janeiro Gas Company, and of the Anglo-American Telegraph Company; on the 12th, of the Cuba Submarine Telegraph Company; on the 13th, of the Recife and San Francisco Pernambuco Railway Company Limited; on the 14th, of the London Gaslight Company, and of the Australian Meat Agency (Tallerman's) Company Limited, the report being adopted in each case.

The Amsterdam Hill Water Company invite subscriptions for a loan of 1,700,000 fl. (£141,666 13s 4d), in bonds to bearer of 1,000 fl., to bear interest at 4 per cent. per annum, the price of issue being 88 per cent.

It is decided by the directors of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company to recommend, at the meeting to be held on the 28th inst., a distribution of £2 15s per share, free of income tax, for the half-year ending 31st December last.

The directors of the Nerbudda Coal and Iron Company Limited, state that copper has been discovered on their property, and that the net profit for the past year amounts to £5,097, out of which they propose to pay a dividend of 5 per cent. and to carry the balance, £640, forward.

The report of the City of Buenos Ayres Tramways Company for the year 1874 recommends a dividend at the rate of 8 per cent., and the appropriation of £1,000 to the contingent fund.

The Coal Consumers' Association notify that interest at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum will be paid by the London and County Bank on presentation of the second coupon attached to each debenture bond of the Association.

A dividend of 2½ per cent. per annum, free of income tax, was declared by the Compagnie Générale des Asphaltes de France Limited at their meeting on Tuesday last, and £1,362 was carried forward.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer stated, in the course of the annual financial statement in the House of Commons last night, that the income for the past year had exceeded the estimates by £496,873, and the expenditure by £370,000. As the estimates were calculated to leave a balance of £463,000, the total surplus amounts to £593,833. He states that the total expenditure for the coming year is estimated to amount to £75,266,000, and the income to £76,685,000 leaving a surplus of £419,000.

In referring to the present high price of "safe" securities, the *Financier* says:—"Taking the English funds as representing the safest possible investment, it becomes a matter of comparison between the security and the rate of interest yielded by them, and the security and rate of interest yielded by other investments. Although we are not inclined to deny that some of the "safe" Stocks are practically as secure as the English Funds, we are quite sure that the time has not yet arrived when this will generally be admitted. The great difference which has always existed, and which will probably continue to exist for a long time yet, between the safety of consols and the safety of any other kind of investment, *in the mind of the public*, must cause the legitimate difference between the rate of interest yielded by consols and that yielded by all other securities to be very wide. In other words, when the prices of other safe stocks advance to such a level as to reduce the return from them to nearly a level with the low rate yielded by Consols, there is evidence that an extreme has been reached, and that the position is artificial, and a change is inevitable sooner or later," and goes on to say, that the principal cause is the increased demand, attributable in great measure to the scarcity of speculative and high interest paying stocks, thereby causing many of the speculative capitalists to invest in first-class securities.

The usual weekly return of the Bank of England shows that the Reserve is equal to 40 per cent. of the liabilities or a rise of 4¼ per cent. compared with last week. The rate of discount remains unchanged. Consols are quoted 93¾ to 93⅞ for money.

A project was brought before the House of Commons yesterday, to form a new line between the Metropolis and Birmingham, the principle feature being to utilize several existing Railways; in fact, it is said that out of the total distance of the route proposed (117 miles) there are 65 miles already at work. The scheme, however, may be considered for the present shelved, in consequence of the decision of the Committee of the House, who declared it "not proved."

The home railway market has experienced several changes during the week, but prices close, in most instances, about the same as last week.

The returns of the Banker's Clearing House for the week ending 14th April, amounts to £93,990,000.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

The following statement shows the receipts for traffic on the undermentioned railways for the past week, as compared with the corresponding week in 1874:—

Railway.	Miles open. 1875	Receipts. 1875 £	1874 £
Caledonian	737½	54,581	50,578
Glasgow and South Western	315½	18,023	15,848
Great Eastern	763	44,318	46,092
Great Northern	517	51,608	48,378
Great Western	1,525	100,750	104,774
Lancashire and Yorkshire	430	63,822	62,768
London and Brighton	376½	28,187	31,746
London, Chatham and Dover	153½	17,718	17,414
London and North Western	1,582½	162,160	164,728
London and South Western	626½	34,870	36,460
London, Tilbury and Southend	45	2,257	1,802
Manchester and Sheffield	259½	30,046	28,770
Midland	944½	101,151	104,604
Metropolitan	8	8,968	8,704
" " District	8	5,072	4,511
" " St. John's Wood	1¼	447	454
North British	839	40,865	38,150
North Eastern	1,379	113,855	117,953
North London	12	6,895	7,336
North Staffordshire Railway	190	10,146	9,735
" " Canal	118	1,668	1,475
South Eastern	350	32,537	34,731

THE DRAMA.

Salvini as Othello—The Gaiety—Trial by Jury—The Charing Cross Theatre.

THE theatrical event of the day is the appearance on the London stage of the great Italian tragedian, Salvini, in the character of Othello. Playgoers who have learnt Italian, and playgoers to whom that beautiful language is only a beautiful mystery, have alike hastened to avail themselves of this opportunity of seeing one of the most difficult impersonations in the entire range of Shakspearian heroes worthily and adequately represented. Since Edmund Kean no actor has produced such grand effects in this part on the English boards as the distinguished *artiste* now before the public. A noble and commanding presence, dramatic power capable of giving expression to the most tempestuous passion, and an intelligence, subtle and comprehensive enough to understand the fine shades of thought which underlie every line of Shakspeare's works, all these qualifications are possessed by Signor Salvini, and are apparent in a high degree in his finished interpretation of the "noble Moor." That the Italian version contains some variations from the English text which may and will be objected to by English critics, and that the actor is only fairly well supported by the other members of the company, is only what might reasonably have been anticipated. The representation, despite all deficiencies, deserves to be seen by every admirer of Shakspeare and every judge of good acting.

As we stated last week, the partial failure of *Rose Michel* at the GAIETY has been followed by the revival of *London Assurance*, with Mrs. Gladstanes in the character of Lady Gay Spanker. That lady shows to much better advantage in comedy than in heavy melodrama, but we do not think that she will ever become a favourite in London. Her style of acting seems rather too loud for the present taste of the metropolis, and she is wanting in that repose which is a great feature in good acting, based as it is on conscious power. The other characters in the comedy are sufficiently well played, but we do not think that Mr. Cowper as Dazzle will efface the recollection of Mathews in the same part. *London Assurance* is now followed by *The Tempest*, whose performance shows no features of special interest. Miss West is not quite a perfect Ariel, but she plays the part fairly well, and Mr. Cowper, always reliable, is a very good Caliban. With this lengthy bill of fare, visitors to the GAIETY are sure to be well amused.

One of the brightest, maddest, merriest little pieces we have seen lately is Mr. Gilbert's new dramatic cantata, at the ROYALTY, which we briefly alluded to last week. The *Trial* is one for breach of promise, and when we state that the trial is ended by the learned judge himself proposing to the lady plaintiff, we only indicate one of the many funny situations which abound in it. The plaintiff is capitally played by Miss Nelly Bromley, and Mr. W. H. Fisher is an equally good defendant. The judge is represented extremely well by Mr. F. Sullivan. The piece is conceived in the true spirit of burlesque, and well deserves the shouts of laughter with which it is nightly received.

The CHARING CROSS THEATRE continues prosperous under the management of Mr. Field, and *The New Magdalen* is still attracting large and appreciative audiences. At Whitsuntide Mr. Field promises an entirely new play, entitled *Jeanne Dubarry*, the author of which is announced to be Mr. H. Herman, and an opera by Messrs. Reece and F. Clay, to be entitled *Catterina*, in which Miss Kate Santley will appear.

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Printed and Published for the Freemason's Chronicle Publishing Company Limited, by Brother WILLIAM WRAY MORGAN, at 67 Barbican, E.C., Saturday, 17th April 1875.

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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. I.—No. 17. SATURDAY, 24th APRIL 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper

THE INSTALLATION OF H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES.

AS the time approaches for the Installation of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the public excitement increases, and the event is justly regarded by the outer world as one of great public importance. The press has devoted much of its space to the publication of the details of the arrangements, and it is not too much to say that people who never saw the inside of a Lodge room in their lives, exhibit a genuine interest in the coming event. Every one feels that the acceptation of high office by the heir apparent to the throne of these realms marks an epoch in Masonry, and affords the Order a new point of "departure." The countenance and patronage of a high personage who will one day, in all human probability, wield the sceptre of a beneficent monarchy over the vast multitude who owe allegiance to the British Crown, is a sufficient and cogent answer to those ignorant libellers who have declared that the Fraternity is opposed in principle to the laws upon which society is based. We have heard much ignorant declamation against the Order of late from persons high in authority in a great section of the Christian Church, and it has been our fortune to point out the fallacies which underlie the arguments of these hostile critics. Masonry has been scouted for its secrecy, for its supposed infidelity, for its assumed hostility to order and good government, and those who have been most active in promulgating erroneous ideas concerning it, are just the persons who profess to have the interests of mankind at heart. Our critics are men who affect a cosmopolitanism which would draw all the varied races of men in serried rank under one great religious banner. We do not quarrel with them for indulging in dreams of spiritual conquest, which are not likely to be realised, but we blame them for their obstinate refusal to see that the Masonic Fraternity, with no sectarian aims in view, is working to achieve a portion at least of the scheme of the largest hearted of the sectaries into which the Christian world is unfortunately divided. The basis of our Order is essentially religious. We claim for Masonry the credit of holding and spreading those elementary ideas of religious and moral truth, without which elaborate creeds and formularies would be nothing. Its fundamental doctrine is duty to man and love to the Great Architect of the Universe, and it has impressed these truths upon the minds of thousands of every creed who, but for Masonry, might have forgotten the practical duties of life. Masonry has reminded us that the religious emotion, like human speech, is universal, while its outward manifestations may assume varied forms. The religions of the world, like the languages of men, contain elementary roots which are common to them all, and it is at least matter for congratulation, and not for censure, that a great body, banded together for benevolent purposes, and necessarily comprising men of various creeds and opinions, should be able, with consummate wisdom, to strike the key-note of all the religions of the world, without offering offence to any of them. It is something gained in the cause of progress and toleration when men whose ideas are as variously tinted as the figures in a kaleidoscope, should hold a philosophy which, to borrow the language of science, sweeps the curve of agreement between all the varied forms of thought in which the devotional feeling of mankind is disguised. If Masonry had done no more for the world than this, we might fairly claim for it a high place amongst the civilising forces of the age. It has helped to teach toleration, and to make brotherhood amongst men no mere mockery of a name, but a solid reality. It has taught us all that brotherhood has claims which stand before rank and wealth, and that although the equality of republican dreamers is impossible, yet that in the Lodge where men meet in the divine cause of charity, the social distinctions may justly be forgotten. A Mason who passes the portals of the Lodge leaves the trappings of his rank behind him, and our Royal Brother, apart from his official position, has no higher status than the poorest and most obscure member of the Craft.

These facts are sufficiently important to justify us in asserting that his Royal Highness, in lending the weight of his great name to the Order, desires the world to understand that its principles are entirely in accordance with religion, law and order. His Installation will teach our critics a wholesome lesson. While they are inveighing against the Craft, he proclaims, in the face of the world, that Masonry has claims upon the consideration of a Royal House whose sympathies have always been strongly in favour of the widest toleration and the most far-reaching benevolence. He virtually tells the leaders of the great religious party, who are actively engaged in a crusade against the Order, that its principles, with which he is entirely familiar, are not antagonistic to order or religion. His assent to these principles is a sufficient guarantee that the Fraternity can never foster heresy, schism, or communism, and that it will never encourage a factious opposition to those who are called to rule the destinies of nations. He comes amongst us pledged to principles of government and religion which have contributed to make the British Empire the greatest in the world, and he tells the world that these principles lie at the basis of Masonry. Further argument or evidence is needless. On the one hand, we are assailed by declaimers, who are confessedly ignorant of the principles they assail; while, on the other hand, the gentleman who is to be our future King, assumes the purple with full confidence in the beneficent influence of the great Fraternity, which, from China to Peru, has helped to bind those links of brotherhood which draw together in close relationship the varied members of the human family.

FREEMASONRY IN DENMARK.

LAST week we gave a short sketch of the progress of Masonry in the kingdom of Holland, and feeling, as we do, that the extension of our Order in other parts of the world cannot fail to prove interesting to our readers, we purpose giving, as opportunity permits, a series of papers thereon, selecting the little kingdom of Denmark as the subject of our present notice.

Most of the writers we have consulted are in accord as to the date when Masonry made its first appearance in Denmark, 1743 being the year to which the first Lodge meeting is assigned. Smith says: "The first Lodge in *Copenhagen* was instituted by a patent from *Scotland* in the year 1743, which is now the Grand Lodge of that kingdom." Mackey, in his *Lexicon of Freemasonry*, and Copping, in his *Handbook of Freemasonry*, write to the following effect, using at least identical, if not the same, words. The Grand Lodge of Denmark, according to their account, was instituted in 1743, and derived its existence from the Grand Lodge of Scotland. Preston, in reference to Denmark, merely remarks: "Under the auspices of Lord Byron"—Grand Master of England from 1747 to 1752—"provincial patents were issued for Denmark and

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Norway, &c. &c." Lawrie writes: "In 1743, it was exported from Scotland to Denmark; and the Lodge which was then instituted is now the Grand Lodge of that kingdom." Findel and Rebold, especially the former, give ampler details of the rise and progress of our Order in this country. Findel, whose authority is the History of Freemasonry in Denmark, by Bro. Dr. Charles Otto, the present 1st Grand Architect of the Grand Lodge of Denmark, attributes its introduction to a Baron G. O. Munich, secretary to the Russian embassy, who, "with four other brethren, founded a Lodge in Copenhagen. He pretended to have received a warrant from a Lodge in Berlin, which invested him with the power to establish a Lodge. He himself assumed the office of chairman, and the first work was the initiation of the Russian ambassador, T. A. Korff, in whose house the work of the Lodge was for a long time carried on." Rebold, with less detail, holds the same view. This Lodge assumed the name of "St. Martin" in January 1745. "Yet," says Findel, "she cannot be regarded as a regularly constituted Lodge, for on her first meeting she declared she required the sanction of the Grand Master" which sanction was not received till six years later. We need not stop however to inquire into, or attempt to reconcile, these discrepancies, which are more apparent than real. This is, undoubtedly, the Lodge which was afterwards erected into the Grand Lodge, while as to the source whence came this branch of Masonry, it must be remembered that Frederic the Great, who established Masonry in Berlin, was initiated at a Lodge in Brunswick, according to the Scotch Constitutions. But to proceed. In the very first year of its existence, three brethren separated themselves from this Lodge, of whom two, Bro. Arbien and Bro. Nielsen—at that time governor of the pages to the Crown Prince,—erected a new Lodge "Zorobabel," which was joined by several brethren from Helsingör. Applications were made from time to time, in different quarters, for a regular constitution, and at length, says Findel—on the authority of Kloss, "Freemasonry in England"—"In October 1745, a proper warrant was drawn up by Lord Cranstoun. This day has ever since been kept as the anniversary of the foundation of the Lodge." As regards the Lodge "St. Martin," it was not till 1749, that it received its constitution as a Provincial Grand Lodge from Grand Master Lord Byron, Count Danneskiold Laurvig being chosen Grand Master. These two Lodges continued to work amicably together from 1765, using one room in common, till at length they united into one Lodge, bearing the title of "Zorobabel of the North Star." Till November 1778 they conducted their labours in the German language, but, on the 18th of that month, a special Lodge was opened under the name of 'Frederick of the Crowned Hope," in which the German language was used, while the Lodge "Zorobabel" worked in the Danish language. In 1780, according to Rebold, the original St. Martin Lodge became the Grand Lodge of Denmark. At first the work was conducted according to the English rite, but the system of the Strict Observance was afterwards introduced by Baron Von Bulow, Copenhagen being erected into a Prefecture or Commandery, under the Grand Master Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick. After the convention of Wilhelmsbad, in 1782, the system of the Knights of Benevolence was introduced by a Capt. Moth, who, in 1785, opened the Lodge "Zorobabel of the North Star" (*Züm Nordstern*), under that system, and this continued in force till the year 1855. The King (Christian VII.), having nominated the Landgrave Charles of Hesse as Grand Master for life, the latter exerted himself with such zeal that, by an Order in Council of 2nd November 1792, Freemasonry in Denmark was formally and officially recognised, the one restriction imposed being that only such Lodges could be regarded as regular and under Government protection which acknowledged the Landgrave as their superior. Between the years 1780 and 1790 arose the Society of the Chain, a sort of Adoptive Masonry, which, in addition to the actual Lodge business, occupied the time and strength of the Craft to a considerable extent. In 1819, the Landgrave Charles erected two high degrees, under the name of a Scotch Lodge. "Charles of the Lion," and a Directory, presided over by the Lord High Chamberlain—Von Hank. On the death of Landgrave Charles, in 1836, the Crown Prince, afterwards Christian VIII. declared himself Protector and Grand Master of the Order. In 1848, the reins of power passed to his son, Frederick VII., who, when Crown Prince, had been initiated in the Lodge "Maria of the Three Hearts" in Odensee, and in 1841 had joined the Lodge "Zorobabel." To Frederick's zeal for the Craft is due its present prosperity. He likewise introduced, in January 1855, the Zinnendorf (Swedish) Rite, and brought about the union of the two Copenhagen Lodges into one, under the name of "Zorobabel and Frederick of the Crown Hope." Two years later the second division of the system—the St. Andrew's Lodge —*Cubus Frederici Septimi*—was erected in Helsingör and Copenhagen, and the third division, the Chapter, in November 1864, the Danish Grand Lodge (of the 8th Province) being formed at the same time. The present Grand Master is H.R.H. the Crown Prince Frederick, brother-in-law of our M.W.G.M. the Prince of Wales, under whose direction the Craft is in a most flourishing condition. It should be added that the Asylum for the Blind in Copenhagen is maintained by the almost unaided benevolence of Masonry.

NUMISMATIC RARITIES.

WE have been favoured with the inspection of a remarkable curiosity, none other than a medal or token, which was struck to commemorate the Installation of His Royal Highness the then Prince of Wales as our Grand Master in the year 1790. It is the size of a half-penny, bearing on its face the arms of the Masons' Company, surmounted by a crest which seems to be a dove upon a globe, with the motto "Amor, honor et justitia," and encircled by the following legend,

"24 NOV. 1790 PRINCE OF WALES ELECTED G.M."

On the reverse is a symbolical representation within a triangle, the letter G, a Book, and the Square and Compasses at its three angles; along its sides are written WISDOM, STRENGTH, BEAUTY: the whole encircled by "*Sit Lux et Lux fuit*"

The following beautiful specimens of numismatic art are worthy of record in this connection.

1. A medal 1¼ inches in diameter GEO: A:F:P: WALL: G:M., GULI: H:D: CLARENT: G:P. with their heads side by side in fine relief: two minute emblems hardly perceptible are introduced—the G and the $\frac{T}{H}$ each within a nimbus. The reverse is surrounded by a most minute lettering. "*In principio erat Sermo, et Sermo ille erat apud Deum, eratque ille Sermo Deus. Et Lux ista in tenebris lucet sed tenebræ eam non comprehenderunt.*" Within this are two ovals filled with beautiful emblematic representations; above is the Prince of Wales' crest, below are the Masons' arms, with some other reading and the date MDCCCII.

2. A noble medal indeed, of the same size, with the head of the Duke of Sussex, in bold relief, lettered H. R. H. AUG. FRED. DUKE OF SUSSEX G.M. The reverse is engraved with the Royal Arms encircled by the Garter, whilst the Grand Master's Collar forms an outer Circle, meeting upon the Coronet above and supporting the Grand Master's Jewel beneath. The sprigs of corn and acacia are there also, and the legend which so well attests the great affection borne to the Duke, whilst he presided over us:—"NEAR TO THE THRONE, BUT NEARER TO HIS FELLOW-MEN, born January 27, 1773, died April 21, 1843." A fit memorial indeed!

3. Another medal which deserves notice for its elegance and finish, is one struck on the Continent, which bears the bold and manly profile of a Grand Master of Belgium. P. VAN HUMBEECK. GR: M: NAT: DE BELGIQUE. It bears an appropriate extract from his inaugural speech in 1869. "*Le Gouvi de la Fr: Moc: Belge doit être modéré: la vie et l'action doivent venir des Loges; pour donner à leur initiative une grande puissance, il faut leur laisser la liberté la plus étendue. La seule limite à l'independance de chacune d'elles est dans les intérêts généraux de l'institution.*"

The foregoing interesting memorials form part of the collection of *Brother Spencer*, of the Masonic Depôt, at 23A Great Queen Street.

The following is one of those interesting and significant paragraphs in the "ANACALYPSIS" (p. 723, vol. 1) of the late learned Brother Godfrey Higgins, which afford so much food for thought, stimulating speculative research

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among the fragmentary debris written and graven, which (apart from mere Patristic records) are all that remain to us of the most important epoch in the spread of Christianity.

Of the very early Christians, fully four-fifths are said to have been of the Manichæan sect of the Gnostics, as they are called, which the Paulites subsequently succeeded in exterminating from Europe, but whose tenets (descended from earliest times) long survived in holes and corners as a secret system, with which our modern Freemasonry has much in common.

"We have seen the Rosy Cross with the eight points of the Templars—the Cross of Christ, and of Manes and of Buddha, and the *Rose of Sharon*, symbols of the Templars and of the Rosicrucians . . . They are now become in a very particular manner, exclusively Christian Orders, and on this account are thought to be only a bastard kind of Masons. But here are two mistakes. They are real Masons, and they ought to be of that universal Christianity . . . *the secret system* so often alluded to by the Christian Fathers. This accounts for the Knights Templar being Christians and uniting with the Battanians or Ishmaelites, or As-chas-dim or Assassins. These were the Chaldæi of Daniel, of the Romans in the time of the early Emperors, called Chaldæi, Mathematici, and Architectonici, and who were banished and persecuted by them. They were a species of Sodalitia or secret Order of which the Government became jealous. They are the Culdees of Iona and of the Crypt of York Minster, where the General Masonic Lodge of England was held. They are the Gnostic Manichæans, who possessed the round churches at the Temple in London, Maplestead, Northampton and Cambridge, and who, in time, became the Templars. In what other way the Templars could become possessed of those churches I do not know. Perhaps they might be rebuilt by them, but the Saxon order of Architecture in the church of Cambridge shows a date before the usually supposed existence of the Order of Templars in England. The Templars in other countries did not build their churches round, but perhaps they found them here in the hands of their brethren the Culdees, and they coalesced with their brethren whom they found here, when they brought their doctrines from the Crusades . . . All our old establishments of Collegiate churches, deans, and chapters, were Culdee establishments, which accounts for the Culdees in them not being destroyed by the Romish Church. All the round *Chapter houses* of our Cathedrals were built round for the same reason . . . In these Chapters and in the crypts, till the XIII. century, the secret religion was celebrated far from the profane vulgar. From this cause the bridge of Ham or 'Om corrupted into *Cambridge*, and Isis and Ox, or Bull of Oxford."

THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE INSTALLATION.

THE Stewards appointed to assist at this important ceremony held their first meeting at Freemasons' Hall on Tuesday, Bro. Monckton, President of the Board of General Purposes, took the chair, and there was a very numerous attendance, among the brethren present being Bro. Sir Albert Woods, Garter, Grand Director of Ceremonies; Bro. Æn. McIntyre Q.C., Grand Registrar; Bro. Savage, Grand Secretary Hervey, Bro. T. Fenn, Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies. The object of the meeting was to explain the arrangements that had been made for admitting and accommodating those entitled to be present in the Royal Albert Hall, and Bro. Monckton, in opening the proceedings, bore willing testimony to the energy with which Bros. Sir Albert Woods and Fenn had designed and carried them out. Another object in calling this meeting was to instruct the Stewards in the duties they would be called upon to perform. Accordingly, Sir Albert Woods briefly addressed the meeting, confining himself chiefly to a few remarks as to the valuable aid rendered him by Bro. Fenn, to whom, with the concurrence of the M.W.G.M., he had entrusted the duties connected with the Hall, and to whom, therefore, he delegated the task of explaining what had been done thus far. Bro. Fenn accordingly showed, by means of diagrams, how the entrance of members would be regulated, and also that as regards time all would have to be seated by 2.30 p.m, when the doors would be close tyled, and all communication with the outside world cut off. Bro. Fenn further stated that a member would only be admitted at the door indicated on his ticket, and would afterwards have to prove his identity. Some of the means which will be taken to prevent unauthorised persons from entering were ably explained by the worthy Brother, who added that further precautionary means to the same end would be communicated in due course to the Stewards. The ceremony, it was calculated, would occupy about an hour and a half. It was also mentioned by Sir Albert Woods that a drawing of the Steward's Jewel commemorative of this auspicious event will shortly be submitted to His Royal Highness.

It should be added that no requests for alterations or further applications for tickets can possibly be entertained. Further, Prov. Grand Officers who attend as members of Grand Lodge, must have over their Provincial Grand Lodge Clothing (if worn) the collars of the offices by virtue of which they are members of Grand Lodge, in accordance with the rule laid down in the Book of Constitutions, page 123, line 13. Provincial Grand Officers, who are only Master Masons, may wear their purple aprons. Brethren are likewise advised not to bring their clothing in boxes, so as to save themselves such personal inconvenience as otherwise is inevitable.

THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

THE third meeting of the Board of Stewards for the above Institution was held yesterday afternoon, at Freemasons' Hall, at 4 p.m., the business being to receive a communication from the Musical Committee, and to fix a convenient day for drawing for seats at the tables at the approaching Festival. The day for this Festival is definitively settled for Tuesday the 11th May proximo, and the R.W. Bro. Stone P.M., Past Grand Steward and Lord Mayor of London, will occupy the chair on the occasion. We are unable to give any account of the proceedings this week, but we hope to find a space for them in our next issue.

NEW CALEDONIA.—EXPULSION OF RESIDENTS, AND CLOSING OF MASONIC LODGES.

WE extract the following from an Auckland (New Zealand) paper, kindly sent us by a friend:—

A Correspondent residing at Noumea, in a letter dated 11th January, and writing to the *Sydney Morning Herald*, states that on the 6th of that month the man-of-war steamer "Infernel," arrived at the *chef lieu* of New Caledonia from Sydney, and brought with her important telegraphic despatches from the French Government to the Governor of New Caledonia and further, that on the morning of the 7th it was currently reported in Noumea that an order for the expulsion of some of the civil inhabitants (besides numerous recalls for officials) had arrived from Paris. Our correspondent says that the first certainty as to these reports was evidenced by the peremptory recall of several officials—a circumstance which appears to have taken all Noumea by surprise; but when the remainder of the telegram came to be known, we are assured that the "whole population, civil and official, was thrown into consternation." This state of things was, we hear, intensified when it became known that Mr. Puech (of the firm of Ratabout and Puech) was one of the persons to be expelled from the colony. It appears that Messrs. Ratabout and Puech are amongst the principal merchants and importers of Noumea, receiving every two months a cargo from Bordeaux, and owning the schooner "Noumea," regularly running between this port and Noumea. The same fate was found to be awarded to Mr. S. Sohn, timber merchant and saw-mill proprietor (well-known in the Australian colonies); the other parties to be "expelled" being Mr. Blaise, a grocer; Mr. Gassan, formerly storekeeper at the Ducos Peninsula; and Mr. Dussert, a publican. Our correspondent at Noumea, who signs his own name in full, further states that the same telegraphic despatch, which imperatively directed the recall of numerous officials, and the expulsion of the above-named citizens, also sent an order to close the Masonic Lodge of Noumea, named "L'Union Caledonienne," with a distinct prohibition to open any similar "establishment" in the colony or its dependencies.

Our correspondent states that neither motive nor explanation is given for the above detailed acts, and that every one is at a loss to find the key to the enigma, considering that all the gentlemen thus dealt with are highly respected and esteemed by the whole population. Two months' grace are given to each party marked out for expulsion—to allow them to arrange their affairs. Several of them intend, it is understood, to proceed to seek redress.

The above communication is attested by a signed letter, and by neatly executed photographs of the Order for the expulsion of Mr. Puech, and of the Order for closing the Masonic Lodge.

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FESTIVAL OF THE GIRLS' SCHOOL.

WE have been favoured with the following amusing letter, which will be interesting, not only locally, but as containing references to the names of many brethren whose reputation is almost universal. We offer no further remark on its contents, as they speak for themselves:—

Vincent Works, Vincent Street, Westminster, S.W.
8th *April* 1875.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Some time ago, on a fine sunny morning early, I was wandering in a foreign clime, not distant from my own native shore, when I was attracted by something which was moving and glittering on the grass at some distance from me. I had never seen anything like it before. It appeared to twist and wind about in different forms, glittering and sparkling like diamonds in the sunlight—was it a beautiful snake? I am not naturally very curious, but I felt I must go and see what this wonderful creature could be. I walked towards it, and when I came near enough I found the scintillating phenomenon was in communication, by means of a string attached to his knee, with a "Sportman," gun in hand, who cleverly contrived, by a peculiar action of the knee-joint, to keep the string going backwards and forwards, winding and unwinding itself on and off the upright spindle of a "Miroir aux Alouettes." This ingenious machine consists of a wooden crescent stuck all over with pieces of looking-glass, and the gyratory motion, first in one direction then in the other, communicated to it by the "Sportsman," produced the curious sparkling effects which had attracted me to the spot. It was just as attractive to some larks, who merrily carolled aloft, till, their curiosity wrought to the highest pitch, they came within reach of the gun. The "Sportman" fired, and—made the feathers fly.

So, my dear Brother, carolling joyously away out of my reach, I want to attract your attention to my "leurre," and bring you nearer to me that I may try and knock off a few silvery feathers from your well-plumed breast.

My Miroir aux Alouettes is a very pretty one, being nothing else than the ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS. I am the Steward who represents the "Britannic" (No. 33) this year.

Attention! je vais faire miroiter la machine. Prrrrrrrrrrr rrrrrrrreep—prrrrrrrrrrr rrrrrrrreep—prrrrrrrrrrr rrrrrrrreep! One hundred and forty-eight pretty little girls, all in blue and white, who sing like little nightingales, play the piano with I don't know how many hands, like Orpheus—or, rather, like Orpheus would have played if he had been possessed of several pairs of hands and several pianos to play upon.

These little girls make such sweet music that they have moved a great **Stone** to come and listen to them. Could Orpheus do more? Then they dance like Terpsichore—drill like "the Guards"—speak French so nicely that one of our brethren, who is a great authority on such matters, says "Elles n'ont **Pa(a)s** leur pareilles"—or, in plain English, "There's none (**Nunn**) like 'em." Their mathematical attainments are such as to bring our learned Brother **Glaishier** down from the clouds in a twinkling to see these little stars. And, finally, their behaviour is so good that our Brother **Paas** says, "They hav'nt any vices, except on(e) **Des vices,**" which he should be very sorry to see them lose.

Very proud are we of "OUR GIRLS," and it behoves **Each** of **us** to do our best to support the Institution. But as in doing charitable actions we should not let our right hand know what our left doeth, so, dear Brother, it would perhaps be as well to take care that thy **Chynoweth** not what thy **Pen** hath **dèrèd** to write, when you kindly send me your autograph embellishing a piece of paper **Peirced** at one end and illustrated by figures. Your Steward, a **Chubby** fellow comes to you like an ancient **Palmer** begging you to "shell" out in the cause of Charity, which **Shields** you from a multitude **Dé vices.** So the **Church** teaches. Remember that peculiar moment—but, Hush! **Wallis** have ears you know. However, I'll tell you a secret. Listen! At our **FESTIVAL,** on **TUESDAY** the **11th of May** next, we shall, by the aid of our Masonic arts, reproduce for the edification of our Brethren one of the mysteries of Old Thebes—that marvel of ANTIQUITY, the **Memnon!!!**

A *few* centuries ago the sages used to delight in the sweet music that fell from the lips of the Statue of Memnon when the first beams of the rising sun touched them. Now, if you're "sage" and will come, you shall see that our **Stone head** who is coming from the Egyptian Hall (which, you know, is in the shadow of that great Temple which thy greater genius, **Oh Wren Magnus,** erected), in the City, is a considerable improvement on Memnon, and worthy of the time in which we live. Not only will his lips, touched by the meridian beams of the Sun of Freemasonry, discourse sweet music, but he will have a good word and a kindly smile for all, neither of which the dark Memnon of Thebes vouchsafed to those who came to see him. And if even, as some have pretended, the magic play of the sunlight caused at times the semblance of a smile to steal over his cold countenance, yet he was far inferior to our Memnon, because he couldn't drink a glass of wine, and our **Head of the City of London** can—and you may see him do it; besides which, listening intently, you may distinctly hear the sound of a **smack** just after the wine has touched his lips.

Thus the triumphant success of our art established beyond doubt, you will enthusiastically rise and drink to the health of our Worshipful Master Memnon with three times three, and will all be merry as **Finch is.**

(e)

So now, say as the Racoon said to Colonel Crockett, "I won't trouble you to fire, I'll come down" with that little feather, and your Brother Steward will be aye **Glog(g).** **N.B.**—If the feather has a **Dix on** it—*i.e.* is a "Tenner" in Guineas—you shall be made a **Life Governor,** and have **Two Votes** at every Election. **Ladies,** observe, become **Life Governors,** with **Two Votes,** for **half** the money, thus conclusively proving that "No mortal can more the Ladies adore, than a true and an accepted Mason."

"Mony a mickle maks a muckle," as our beloved Treasurer says, so if your Donation is a small one it will though a little **Crumb be** thankfully received and faithfully applied by,

Yours fraternally,

WILLIAM SUGG,
Steward for the "Britannic" at the Girls' Festival 1875.

THE LATE REV. THOS. FLOYD OF STALYBRIDGE.

MASONIC DEMONSTRATION.

ON Sunday afternoon a special Masonic service was held in Holy Trinity Church, Castle Hall, Stalybridge, as a mark of respect to the memory of our late Brother, the Rev. Thos. Floyd, Vicar. Shortly after two o'clock between 60 and 70 members of the different Masonic Lodges in the town and neighbourhood assembled in the Moira Lodge room, Wellington Hotel, Caroline Street, the deceased gentleman having for many years acted as Chaplain of that Lodge. A procession was formed, and, attired in becoming Masonic apparel, the members of the Craft walked through the principal streets in the town, and then they entered the Church, where a large number of Freemasons had already assembled. The building was filled in every part, and most of the congregation wore black clothing. The pulpit, reading desk, front of the gallery, and other portions of the interior were draped with mourning cloth, and the bells rung out a muffled peal. An augmented choir was present, and appropriate hymns were sung, to the accompaniment of Bro. Joseph Travis, who presided at the organ. The Rev. W. Ogden of St. Peter's Church, Ashton, read the prayers, and the sermon was preached by the Rev. Charles J. Bowen, Provincial Grand Chaplain for East Lancashire. He took his text from Job vii. 1. "Is there not an appointed time to man upon earth?" He proceeded to say: When, with consummate wisdom and with greatest exactness, God had made this world and all the creatures that inhabit it, he at last formed man, after his own image; a rational being, and made him capable of enjoying happiness in this world and in the world to come. That he might be happy in this world, God placed him in the Garden of Eden, where there was every delight and pleasure that could be desired. The whole of the Garden was placed at his service, and every indideal creature was placed under his immediate care and direction. And yet the Creator, who well knew what was in man's nature, and foreseeing that all those noble qualities with which He had endowed him would naturally incline towards society, and even all the pleasures with which he was surrounded would fail in giving him perfect happiness without a companion, He created for him a helpmate, and, thus man became, not only a rational being, but also a social being, and, in process of time, when man began to multiply on earth, we found the principle extending itself which made them form themselves into societies, the members being known to each other by various customs, signs and symbols. The preacher then proceeded to apply this principle to the first organization of Freemasonry, and he continued: In our departed brother, whose memory on this occasion we honour, we had a member of a Society linked together by the bonds of brotherly love, and we are linked by the same bonds of brotherly love in meeting together with feelings of love and truth this afternoon. It is a society of which all its members may well be proud. It has been said, and said truly, that a good Mason is a citizen of the world; that his charity moves along with him like the horizon, and wherever he goes that bond shall be his vision, which will tell him to do to the members all that lays in his power for their good. The working tools of an operative Mason, and those which are made use of by our Order as taking an emblematical form, are identical. Thus, the twenty-four inch rule directs us to observe every gospel duty; teaches us not to swerve to the right hand nor to the left, either in practice or in moral duty, or in obedience to any religious precept, and to have always our eternity in view in our conduct. This line teaches us to pay the strictest regard to the line of conduct marked out for us by the Creator and by our Redeemer; it teaches us to avoid all double dealing, and points out the direct and narrow path which leads ever upwards, ever onwards, to the mansions of eternity; that sincerity in all our professions is after all the only passport through death. It is like Jacob's ladder—it connects heaven and earth, and, by laying hold of it, we climb to that place where we shall enjoy the honoured line of time in the never-ending circles of eternity. The plumb line admonishes us to stand erect, upright in all Christian rectitude; to keep to the happy medium of temperance in all things, and to make our passions coincide with our line of duty. The square again teaches us that we shall

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unite on the square in all our actions by gospel rule and gospel line; that our conduct shall be regular and uniform, and that our money shall neither be hoarded nor spent wastefully. The chisel and mallet teach us the advantages that accrue from a proper education. The human mind unpolished is as the diamond surrounded by its natural crust; it discovers none of its sparkling powers until the rough external is chipped off. Education gives to the mind what the chisel gives to the stone; not only external polish, it smoothens, and gives us a knowledge which enables us to arrange and appreciate the delights of matter and science, and, the most valuable of all, to understand our real duty to God and our neighbour. The level advises us that we are all derived from the same common stock, we are all partakers of the same frail nature, we have all the same vices, and the same hopes through redemption, and are, therefore, naturally upon a level one with another. We should never forget the claims that humanity has upon us and that a time will come, a time which the wisest of us knows not how soon, when all distinctions besides that of goodness will cease, so that we should, ere the great leveller comes, see that the house, our house, is set in order and ready to receive the Grand Master at whatsoever hour he may think fit to come. Lastly, the trowel teaches us that nothing is united and knit together without proper cement, and as the trowel connects each stone together by a proper disposition of cement, so charity, that bond of protection, and all social links separated, links together separate minds and various interests, thus taking the emblematic meaning of tools, which is the soul of Masonry. Encouraged in every good disposition, that condition of mind is fostered which nothing earthly can give nor yet destroy, the soul, the secret of pure heartfelt joy. And the thoughtful Mason is instructed to raise with these tools a stately fabric of good work upon the strong foundation of faith, that he may be fitted at last to inhabit that glorious house which is not made with hands, but which is eternal in the Heavens. The text proposes to us a question which needs an answer—Is there not an appointed time to man upon earth? Now this assumes a double question. There is an appointed time wherein man may receive instruction, and may embrace it at an appointed time; and another, when all his earthly work must be accomplished. To both these questions we must admit that the Mason has better opportunities than other men of being able to give a satisfactory reply. I have shown you that at our Lodge meetings, where we have our working tools exhibited, we are reminded of our duties; to make the best use of our time, and of all earthly advantages, and to Master Masons it is unnecessary for me to add—they know full well how the appointed hour, when we shall have to leave this earth, is brought to their notice. He then asked the congregation to look into themselves, and see what was their daily practice. Was it not too true that the lives of too many were only spent for the pleasures of this earth. Death might come upon them when it was quite unlooked for. It might come after a little sickness as it did to that brother whose memory they that day revered. Frequent instances had been brought under their notice of the uncertainty of life, but, strange as it might appear, they never seemed to apply such cases to themselves. If not in words, at any rate in their actions, they showed that they contemplated living for many years. He continued: To most of you our deceased brother was long and faithfully known as a Mason. To you who belong to his particular Lodge a connection of so many years was more than enough to establish a tie of more than an ordinary nature. To those who were members of his congregation, the fact that he was entirely instrumental in binding up and working out the formation of this place, is enough to make you feel that a friend is missing. He brought about the building of the edifice in which we are assembled, he was chiefly instrumental in erecting a House of God, and within a very recent date he had the satisfaction of learning, ere he fell asleep in Jesus, that the debt had been paid off the Church, and to you who are of his congregation he must have been more than favourably known and loved. After an active life thus spent, perhaps tinged here and there with weaknesses and infirmities—for who of us but must plead guilty to weaknesses and infirmities too?—but when we hear of a universal charity which thought nothing of giving the coat, or the hat, or anything else he had, to those whom he thought might need them, we must pass over the weaknesses and infirmities, and say that, perhaps, he is now in the glorious presence of his Great Master Jesus Christ. . . . . We may well hope that he is tranquil among the spirits, and in the company of Master Masons in the Great Lodge above, with the spirits of men made perfect. . . . . He, like our dear departed brother, who follows out the principles of our Order—not a mere professor, but a doer of work—plants his foot on a firm and sure rock, against which the temporal billows may beat themselves ever so strongly, and dash ever so madly, but yet he stands secure and erect, because he stands on that rock which is the rock of Christ.

"The oak, hieroglyphically, represents strength, virtue, constancy, and sometimes longevity: under these symbolical characters, it might be revered by the Druids; and the misleto, which they held in the highest veneration, has excellent medicinal qualities, which, in those days of ignorance, might form the chief of their materia medica, being a remedy for epilepsies, and all nervous disorders, to which the Britons, in those ages, might be peculiarly subject, from the woodiness of the country, the noxious respiration proceeding from the large forests, the moisture of the air from extensive uncultivated lands, and the maritime situation of this country."—*Hutchinson's Spirit of Masonry.*

LIFEBOAT ENDOWMENT FUND.

The amount (£1 1s) acknowledged in our issue of 20th March as from the "Strong Man Lodge, No 45," should have been as from the "Strong Man Lodge of Instruction."

REVIEWS.

All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, 67 Barbican, E.C.

The Marvellous Country; or Three Years in Arizona and New Mexico. By S. W. Cozzens. Illustrated by upwards of one hundred engravings. Second Edition. London: Sampson Low, Marston, Low and Searle, Crown Buildings, 188 Fleet Street. 1875.

THIS work, in which are recorded the incidents and experiences of a three years' sojourn in Arizona and Mexico, is in the highest degree interesting. Perhaps no class of literature is so universally popular as books of travel, for there is nothing people so love to read about as the manners and customs of a strange people, the scenery and resources of a strange country. Even the practice, too commonly resorted to among travellers, of drawing the long bow is excused, and it may be, overlooked, if the traveller records his real and imaginary adventures in a lively, graphic style. The chances too are that only a very few can gainsay the bold assertions of the writer. The fancy, therefore having a wider field in works of this sort, in which to exercise itself, many travellers of course avail themselves of this chance, and give a free rein to their imaginative faculties. So many, indeed, have done so, that people who have not trodden the same paths as the author whose work they may be studying become very sceptical about anything which seems too marvellous to be true, yet is true notwithstanding. However, having no knowledge whatever of Arizona and New Mexico, except such as we have derived from the sketches written by this and other writers, we are not in any position, nor have we the slightest desire to suggest that the author is not a faithful historian of his three years' travels in these distant and rarely-travelled countries. All men see not with the same eyes. What appears marvellous to one person may excite a very trifling degree of interest in another, and the imaginative man will unintentionally give higher colouring to what is not very attractive, while the unimaginative will hardly even do scanty justice to what is really grand and imposing. There are a few who strike the happy mean between the too extremes of excessive and defective colouring. But these few are almost as *rare aves* as black swans. But to pass to the volume before us. We have not followed the author over the whole of the country he traversed, but we have read sufficient to fully justify the assertion that any one who takes it up will soon find himself deeply interested in the scenes and incidents described. Mr. Cozzens, in his preface, disclaims all pretence to literary merit, but the disclaimer was quite needless. We do not expect that a man constantly on the move will trouble himself much, either during his journey or afterwards, about well-rounded sentences, imposing phraseology, and the like. Such a one is more likely to err a little on the other side, and publish his notes in rougher form than usual. The point, however, is of no importance, for Mr. Cozzens has considerable facility of composition, and makes an admirable descriptive writer. He has been at great pains, likewise, to obtain all the information he could of the early history of these regions. Let us take, for instance, the following account of Father Kino's exploration of the county in the middle of the seventeenth century. This old Jesuit priest was bent on visiting and exploring it. Accordingly, Mr. Cozzens tell us how:—

"Single and alone, this brave old padre started forth from the mission Dolores to go, he knew not whither,—the Cross his only protection,—the wilderness through which he must pass his only purveyor. Persevering in the face of the most trying difficulties, he succeeded in reaching a river—supposed to be the Santa Cruz, and what is now the province of Sonora. He followed the course of this river, until he reached its junction with the Gila. He then descended the Gila, examining the country as well as he could on his way. Crossing the Gila near its mouth, he retraced his steps, and ascended the river on the north bank, passing through a country the most wonderful ever seen by the eye of man."

"He found it inhabited by a people who were kind, generous and hospitable in the extreme, the better class living in houses built of adobe, while the more common people built their houses of sticks set in the ground, and bound together at the top by ropes made from the fibrous leaf of the maguey, and thatched with bundles of long grass.

"These houses, he declares, were well constructed and comfortable. Their towns and villages he describes as situated upon the banks of the streams, and generally built upon mesas, and well adapted for defence. He represents the population as vast, the settled portion of the country extending from river to river, the inhabitants frugal, industrious, and contented. They manufactured a kind of cotton cloth from the leaf of the maguey, which grew in great profusion all over the country. He found them very expert in making the most beautiful feather work, which they coloured with dyes, both mineral and vegetable, manufactured by themselves. They were also well versed in the art of picture writing, which they practised to a great degree, upon the walls of their dwellings—as also upon the walls of their *estufas*, or public buildings, which were very smooth and well finished, where a kind of record was kept of the remarkable events in their history."

The account is far too long to quote *in extenso*, so we give the substance of what follows. They used a kind of paper, made of the cloth above mentioned, prepared with a coating of gum, and had also newly-dressed skins. Father Kino found likewise very beautiful specimens of pottery, and in great store, silver and gold vessels, some of them exhibiting fine design and elegant workmanship, with tools made from copper and tin amalgamated. They irrigated the ground and raised corn, beans, and cacao. They even extracted from the stalk often a saccharine matter, from which they manufactured a kind of sugar and also a kind of liquor from the fermented juice of the magney, or Mexican aloe. From this plant, indeed, they made pins, needles, paper, rope, cloth, thatch, for their houses, meat and drink. Truly, a most remarkable plant! Their

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flocks and herds are described as immense, but they had no horses or draught cattle. To some extent they understood mining. As to religion, they worshipped the sun as God, and on all their altars kept a flame ever burning, to which fact they believed they were indebted for all their happiness. Generally, they resembled the Aztecs, as described by Gomara and Diaz—who were members of Cortes's expedition, and to whose narratives we are indebted chiefly for our knowledge of the people of Mexico—only less inclined to warlike pursuits. In his travels Father Kino passed to the South of the Fire Mountain, supposed to be the San Francisco Mountain, through a portion of the Black Forest, to the north east, in which direction he shortly afterwards struck the head waters of Mimbres, and he followed this stream till its waters suddenly were lost in the earth. After some months, Father Kino resolved upon returning, having determined to visit the country again, and establish Christianity in it. He finds himself at length, after an absence of over four years, at the place whence he set out. He immediately commenced his preparations for a second exploration, but delays occurred, and it was not till seven years had passed that, in 1665, he had managed to perfect all his arrangements. Later, in 1670, he, with three others, started on a mission through the wilderness. Of their journey and the perils they encountered, we are told there is no record, save that in 1672 they reached Gila,—then commenced establishing missions among the *Yagars*. But further, and on,—1679, they were successful in establishing five.

The "Ojo Caliente," or hotspring, which the author and his companions reached after crossing the bed of the Membres, and ascending its west bank, which they followed for about ten miles, is described as lying "in the top of a mound nine hundred and sixty-two feet in circumference at its base, and forty-six feet in height, the whole mound being, undoubtedly, a deposit made by the waters of the spring. We found the surface of the water about five feet below the top of the mound, and very clear and quite hot, showing a temperature 135 degrees of Fahrenheit, while it discharged large quantities of carbonic acid gas. When cooled it was quite palatable." A few days later the party are surprised by a number of Apaches just when they had entered a small cañon or pass, and one of them named Lawes was killed. Mr. Cozzens, not long after, bent on antelope shooting, goes out alone, and has a narrow escape from an Apache, who approaches concealed beneath a bush. Fortunately he takes a good shot at him with his revolver, and the next morning contrives to rejoin his companions.

The scalp dance, which Mr. Cozzens had an opportunity of witnessing during his captivity among the Apaches, though an account of a most disgusting exhibition, is well described, as are many other exciting scenes and incidents. At p. 80, we have an account of the mission of San Xavier del Bac, built by the Jesuits in 1678, and distant some ten miles from Tucson. This mission, says the author, "is the most beautiful, as well as remarkable, specimen of the Saracenic style of architecture to be found in the country; nor have I ever seen a building in such perfect harmony with its proportions as is this." The moment the eye rests upon it, one experiences a feeling of entire satisfaction, so complete is it in every detail. Its front is richly ornamented with elaborate carving. Standing in niches, and grouped over and around the main entrance, are the remains of the figures of the twelve Apostles, evidently the work of a master hand. From the front corners rise lofty and beautifully proportioned towers, one of which is surmounted with a most graceful spire. Over the main body of the church, which is cruciform in shape, rises a massive dome; while the walls, both inside and out, are capped by handsome cornices." Further on, says Mr. Cozzens, "Alas! time has blackened its frescoed walls, and sacrilegious hands have defaced its fine statuary and paintings; but the building itself will stand in its massive strength for a thousand years, and its graceful spire, silently pointing upwards, will not fail to remind the beholder that hundreds of years ago, upon the deserts of Arizona, the example of the lowly Nazarene was held forth for the guidance of pagan Indians, in obedience to the Divine command, go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel." Accompanying this is a very well executed illustration of the building, which certainly confirms the author's sketch. Indeed, the illustrations throughout the volume are both numerous and for the most part effective. The rock "*El Moro*," called by the Americans "Inscription Rock," is described at p. 139, and among the inscriptions are quoted the following:—"Don Joseph de Bazemballes, 1526;" "Governor and Captain General of the Province of New Mexico for our Lord, the King, passed by this place on his return from the pueblo of Zuni, on the 29th of July, of the year 1620, and put them in peace at their petition, asking the favour to become subjects of His Majesty; and renew their grave obedience. All of which they did with free consent, knowing it prudent, as well as very Christian." "Here passed General Don Diego de Baregas, to conquer Santa Fé for the Royal Crown, New Mexico, at his own cost, in the year 1692."

But we have not space to extend these remarks. Suffice it that besides an excellent description, for which we have already given the author credit, he exhibits a fine appreciation of humour—all kinds of eccentricities being introduced on all convenient occasions and amusingly recorded. We heartily commend this book to the notice of our readers as a capital work of its class, and with these words take farewell of it, with a full sense of the pleasure derived from our somewhat hasty perusal of its pages.

THE QUARTERLIES.

THE most noteworthy article in the *Edinburgh* is, in our estimation, the one which treats of "The Geology of India." It is based on certain Geological Papers on Western India, by Dr. Carter, M.D., printed for the Government of Bombay in 1857, and two chapters of a recent work by Mr. Blandford, who is a member of the Geological Survey, now in progress in India, for use in the Government schools, and contains much valuable information relating both to the Geology and Ethnology of the country. The most ancient Geological formations, we are told, are not, as might be imagined, the Himalayas and the Suliman ranges, which form the Northern and Western boundaries of India, but will be found in the Palæozoic Rocks "contained within certain hill ranges, the Aravulli, the, Vindhya, and others, so that if at the earliest period of India's geologic history, a man could have stood on the edge of the mountain fort of Rhotas in Bengal, he would have seen an apparently illimitable ocean to the north, east and south; the lines of the Vindhya, to the west and south-west, would have jetted out as bold promontories, skirted by islands of the same geologic formation. The place occupied by the Himalayas, by the Suliman and Hála ranges, was then part of the ocean whose waves beat against the basis of the Vindhya and Aravulli to the north, and against the plateau of Mysore to the south, east and west. As yet the Western Ghauts were only traceable by lines of Palæozoic islands, and nearly the whole of the Dekhan Katch, and Guzerat were sea. What existed of India was an island, with irregular chains of islands stretching south-west, in the direction of Africa." Then follows a detailed account of how "the filling up, as it were, of this skeleton," occurred at various ages following. "The distinctive rocks of the Triassic, Jurassic and Cretaceous secondary periods led into the Tertiary, and at first were the result of volcanic action so wonderful and so enormous that it is difficult to comprehend them. The Plutonic rocks were in some places upheaved, contorted, and twisted into marvellous forms; fresh eruptive powers gave early metamorphic rocks, gneiss, mica and hornblende schists, clay-slate, limestone, &c., and to them succeeded the Cambrian and Silurian series, and the Oolitic in the fresh-water shales, limestone, sandstone and coal, and the marine deposits of Kutch and Pondicherry. Between the Oolitic and the scene of the Tertiary period, the first great volcanic upheaval of the Dekhan may have taken place, excluding the sea from the central part of Western India, and forming lakes of fresh water, in which traces of animal life are found in shells and fishes, but to the east and north, the valley of the Ganges was as yet sea, though the Himalayas and the Suliman ranges had been thrown up to bound it." We then advance "into the marine formations of the Miocene." "Then followed the great Trappean effusion to the West which preceded the Post-pliocene Era," by which "last upheaval the Gangetic Valley was filled up partially; but the lower portion of India had probably partly risen from the sea in the Oolitic period of the Secondary Era, which may be inferred from the eruption of felspathic rocks, by which the lower portion of the peninsula is distinguished, and the green sand and gault of the Cretaceous periods, which are found at Pondicherry and elsewhere." We cannot follow the writer through all the details of his sketch, but it is eminently interesting. As to the population, that is divided into two great classes, "the Aryan to the North, the Turanian or Dravidian to the South." The Aryans, "at a distance of time now unascertainable, emigrated in successive waves, from Central Asia, as it is supposed, not only to India but to the west, where their traces are distinctly followed by ethnological science. These Aryans brought with them flocks and herds, their noble language, and a certain degree of civilisation which became gradually more and more advanced. As they spread over the lands of the Gangetic Valley, they drew to them portions of the rude aboriginal people, hence arose communities, &c. These facts, we learn, are traceable "from the specimens of early literature which have survived among the northern Aryans;" but we have no similar records among the southern Turanians, where the same results as in the north followed in a modified form, though of the means by which they were accomplished there is no evidence, till a period apparently very subsequent. A little further on we read of Kashmere, that it "has a history of its own apart from India, and which begins according to the ancient work Rajah Turangini, in 3714 B.C., or at a very considerably more remote period than the earliest confirmed Aryan date. The dynasty then reigning was the Kaurara, which lasted till 2448 B.C. It was succeeded by the first Gonardhya till 1217 B.C., and the recent Gonardhya reigned up till 216 B.C. Other dynasties followed; smoke and fire worshippers, Boodhist, reverting to the original Hindoo faith as it came after the expulsion of Boodhism. This, therefore, is a long record of the most ancient civilisation, and Kashmere was evidently a powerful monarchy, having authority as far as the Dekhan in the Boodhist period, as its excavated temples and erections prove. In Kashmere, the first Aryans had found a soil and climate which induced progress in invention and forms of art which still prevail. Even the earlier population seems to have produced architects and sculptors as well as historians and poets." Among the other articles in the number may be mentioned reviews of the "New Series of Wellington's Despatches," "Reminiscences of William Macready," and Kinglake's "Battle of Inkermann," with articles on "Modern Architecture and its Assailants," and "Papal Rome and Catholic Reform."

The *Quarterly* also has an admirable review of "Macready's Reminiscences," in which the writer traces the career of that eminent tragedian from early boyhood till his retirement from the stage, delineating with great impartiality all the salient features in his character. In addition to this are two other reviews, one of the life of "Lord Selborne, first Marquis of Lansdowne," and the other of the "Last Journals of David Livingstone." There is, too, a survey of "National Education in the United States," an ecclesiastical article, in which are criticised the points severally taken up by Dr. Newman, Cardinal Manning, and Monsignor Capel, in connection with Mr. Gladstone's celebrated pamphlet on the Vatican dogmas. The Statue of Memnon forms the subject of another paper, which should find many appreciative readers, while the political article, with which the number closes, on the relations at present existing and which may exist hereafter between "England and Russia in the East," are fully and ably discussed.

The *British Quarterly* devotes its first article to a very masterly sketch of the life and character of Gaspard de Coligny, one of the most eminent victims of the Massacre of St. Bartholomew. This is

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followed by an account of the "Higher Pantheism," and the subject of "Ultramontanism and Civil Allegiance" is considered in this as in the preceding Reviews. So, too, we have reviews of "Livingstone's Last Journals," and Kinglake's "History of the Crimean War," that, at least, of the most recently published, or, Inkermann volume. In the political article is discussed Mr. Gladstone's retirement from the Liberal leadership, the number concluding with a series of reviews on "Contemporaneous Literature" of all kinds.

CORRESPONDENCE.

All Letters must bear the name and address of the Writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.

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INSTALLATION STEWARDS—THEIR DUTIES.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR,—As you are aware, the Stewards appointed for the approaching Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales were called together on Tuesday last, to have explained to them the duties they would be called upon to perform. At the opening of the proceedings we were told that no criticism would be allowed, we were there simply to read, mark, learn, and ask questions about anything we could not properly understand. All comments and suggestions being thus prevented, I ask you to allow me to make a few remarks. It was generally supposed that the Stewards would be requir d more for the purpose of vouching for the brethren of their own particular Lodges, and by this means prevent the intrusion of those who had no right to be there, and, at the same time, facilitate the entrance and seating of the brethren they recognised. This appears to be quite a mistaken idea, we are required for no such purpose, but rather to act, or at least the bulk of us, as finger posts, in various parts of the building, our positions to be arranged by ballot, and of course anywhere but with the Lodge we have the honour of representing, and in most instances of presiding over. I will ask one question: Do the two or three brethren who have the entire management of this affair thoroughly understand what seven or eight thousand people mean, and do they think that any test can be applied individually to this number in one hour and a half, the time allowed for filling the Hall? Will it not be the case that a rush will take place, and then, at the last moment, in midst of confusion, all be allowed to enter who may present themselves. This appreciation of numbers was fairly put to the test at our meeting on Tuesday, when a brother considered he could, and attempted, to give away tickets to those present, and signally failed. I hope this may not be taken as a criterion as to what will take place on the 28th.

Yours fraternally,

A STEWARD.

WOMAN AND MASONRY.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR AND BROTHER,—Has it ever occurred to you that Masonry, with all its claims upon the consideration of society, does not usually meet with unqualified approval from the fair sex? I have often remarked that a wife, especially a newly married one, will strongly object to her husband becoming one of the Craft, and I have met with grave and experienced matrons who have given their verdict against the brotherhood. No doubt any general hostility on the part of womankind, if it really exists, arises from a feeling of pardonable suspicion or jealousy. A wife dreads anything that robs her for even a few hours of the society of her husband. She dislikes clubs, and all their associations, and Masonry, in her estimation, is little else than a gigantic club, possessing strange and mysterious attractions for the misguided animals of the masculine gender. She suspects that her cherished darling may acquire, or foster, habits of dissipation, that he may be led into uncongenial society, or seduced into expenses which may be beyond his means. Of course these erroneous ideas of the Craft are speedily dispelled when a wife has had an opportunity of judging practically of its influence. She finds that Masonry makes a man a better husband, a better father, and a better member of Society. She learns that the periodical Lodge meetings which she once feared, are not so much to be dreaded as a visit from her husband's quondam bachelor friends, or an occasional dinner in the city. He leaves his Lodge early, and when he reaches home his talk is usually bright and cheerful. He has associated with Brothers who have met to discuss questions which always have a humanising influence upon the most stoical, and he is the better for the change. Our matrons, Sir, who really know Masonry, value and respect it, and the young wives who are jealous of its influence will, perhaps, learn to respect it likewise. I am, Sir, yours respectfully,

W. M. B.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ARCH.—There was a letter on the subject in our last issue.

INQUIRER.—Consult Findel, whose *History of Freemasonry* is deemed able and trustworthy.

1875.—There is no harm in trying.

E. COMP.—Oliver's *Masonic Jurisprudence* will help you.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY NEWS.

FRIDAY.

The unsatisfactory state of trade daily becomes more apparent on the Money Market. The continual decrease in the number of bills offered for discount, causing the Bank authorities to be underbid on all sides in the open market. Notwithstanding this, the directors decided, at their meeting yesterday, to continue the rate of discount at 3½ per cent. The dividends of the principal discounting establishments for the present half year may be expected to suffer in consequence of the general depression.

Subscriptions are invited by the Crown Agents for the Colonies for £300,000 Cape of Good Hope Government four-and-a-half per cent. debentures, which will be issued in sums of £500, £200, and £100, at the price of 98 per 100. These debentures, which form part of the £660,000, authorised by the Colonial Legislature, for the construction and equipment of railways, are identical with the four-and-a-half per cents. of this colony already on the market, and will be redeemable at par by annual drawings.

At the meeting of the Mercantile Bank of India, London and China, held on the 20th inst., the report, showing profits amounting to £54,712 7s 9d was adopted. A dividend, making a total distribution of 6 per cent. for the year, was declared, and a balance of £9,712 7s 9d was carried to the reserve fund.

The home railway market has been quiet, and prices close nearly the same as last week, the principal exception being Great Northern, which has been in demand in consequence of the expected increase in the receipts from the Alexandra Palace traffic, the "A" shares of this Company have improved 5½ since our last notice.

The Demerara Railway Company have declared a dividend on their original stock for the half-year at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum; the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, one at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, free of income tax, for the past half year; the Charing Cross Publishing Company have recommended a dividend of 15 per cent., and the directors of Liebig's Extract of Meat Company Limited have resolved to propose at the next general meeting a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent.

The return of the Bankers' Clearing House for the past week gives the amount of clearing at £140,952,000.

The report of the directors of the Grand Trunk Railway Company of Canada shows that the amount available for dividend for the half year ending 31st December was £38,389 14s 9d; that of the Great Western of Canada is not, however, so satisfactory, the result of the half year's working to 31st January being a deficit, amounting, together with the debit balance brought forward, to £50,307 14s 4d.

Notwithstanding the various schemes promulgated to lessen the pains of a voyage across the Channel, the evil still remains, and it does not seem that the travelling public are likely to be the only sufferers, if we may judge by the English Channel Steam Ship Company, who have just announced an issue of £16,000 debentures, which they say is necessary to meet the cost of improvements in the *Castalia*, which has just been removed into the Millwall Docks to receive new boilers, &c. We wish the promoters every success in their laudable object, but, at the same time, question the dividend paying powers of the undertakings.

In the Telegraph branch it is stated that the net profit of the West India and Panama Company for the half year ending December last, amounted to £2,925 16s 7d, which it has been decided shall be carried to general reserve. The report of the Submarine Cables Trust states that £21,213 has been applied to the payment of the coupons due on the 15th October 1874, out of the net profits, which amounted for the past year to £26,615, and that 29 certificates were purchased in October last, for £3,179, the balance being carried forward. The total dividends for the past year of the Eastern Extension, Australasia and China Company Limited, amounted to 6¼ per cent.

The report issued by the Australian Mortgage Land and Finance Company states that the profits for the past year amounted to £34,866 1s 10d, out of which an interim dividend of 10 per cent. has been paid, and it is now proposed to pay a second 10 per cent., together with a bonus of 2s 6d per share, to add £10,000 to reserve, and to carry the balance, amounting to £2,991 1s 10d, forward.

It was stated at the meeting on Wednesday that the total funds invested in the London and Provincial Law Assurance Society amounted to £683,930 13s. The new assurances effected during the past year yielded in premiums £8,812 0s 7d, and assured £208,650.

The traffic receipts of the London General Omnibus Company Limited for the week ending 18th inst., amounted to £10,367, being a decrease of £5 as compared with the corresponding week of last year.

FOR Sale, an elaborately carved Set of Ivory Chessmen. The Kings stand 8½ inches high, the other pieces in proportion. Kings and Pawns on horseback, all mounted on stands, with concentric balls. Can be seen, and full particulars obtained, on application to W. W. MORGAN, 67 Barbican.—Adv.

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THE THEATRES, &c.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.—This evening, LA FIGLIA DEL REGGIMENTO. On Monday, GUGLIELMO TELL. On Tuesday, UN BALLO IN MASCHERA. On Thursday, DON GIOVANNI. On Friday, IL FLAUTO MAGICO. At 8.30 each evening.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA, DRURY LANE.—This evening, IL BARBIERE DI SIVIGLIA. On Monday, LUCREZIA BORGIA. On Tuesday, LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR. On Thursday, IL BARBIERI DE SIVIGLIA. At 8.30 each evening. On Monday, morning performance of OTHELLO, at 2.30. On Wednesday and Friday evenings, at 8.0, IL GLADIATORE.

HAYMARKET.—At 7.30, A FAIR ENCOUNTER, DAVID GARRICK and THE LITTLE TREASURE.

ADELPHI.—At 7.0, SARAH'S YOUNG MAN, NICHOLAS NICKLEBY, and the BELLES OF THE KITCHEN.

PRINCESS'S.—At 7.30, ROUND THE WORLD IN EIGHTY DAYS.

LYCEUM.—At 6.50, FISH OUT OF WATER. At 7.45, HAMLET.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.0, TWENTY MINUTES WITH A TIGER. AT 7.30, THE TWO ORPHANS.

STRAND.—PAUL PRY and INTIMIDAD.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 7.45, THE MERCHANT OF VENICE.

GAIETY.—LONDON ASSURANCE and THE TEMPEST.

GLOBE.—At 7.0, EAST LYNNE and BLUE BEARD.

ST. JAMES'S.—At 7.30, TRYING IT ON. At 8.15, TOM COBB.

ROYALTY.—At 7.45, A GOOD NIGHT'S REST. At 8.15, LA PERICHOLE. At 10.15, TRIAL BY JURY.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.0, A WHIRLIGIG. At 7.45, OUR BOYS. At 10, A REGULAR FIX.

CHARING CROSS.—This evening, last time, 7.30, DRAWING THE LINE. At 8.15, THE NEW MAGDALEN. On Monday, at 7.15, GOOD FOR NOTHING, and Mr. J. S. Clarke as MAJOR WELLINGTON DE BOOTS, &c.

OPERA COMIQUE.—On Monday (for one night only) LES TRENTE MILLIONS DE GLADIATOR.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, THE GOOSE WITH THE GOLDEN EGGS. At 8.0, WHITTINGTON. (Last Nights.)

CRITERION.—LES PRES SAINT GERVAIS.

COURT.—At 7.30, SHORT AND SWEET. At 8.30, LADY FLORA.

SURREY.—This evening, RICHARD III.

SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE.—HAMILTON'S NEW EXCURSIONS AT HOME AND ABROAD.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—This Day, CONCERT. On Tuesday, SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL. Open daily. AQUARIUM, PICTURE GALLERY, &c.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.

OPENING FESTIVAL.

SATURDAY NEXT, MAY 1ST.

GRAND CONCERT, under the direction of SIR MICHAEL COSTA. The following, amongst other distinguished artistes of Her Majesty's Opera, will take part, Mdme. Titiens, Madame Trebelli-Bettini, Signor Campanini, and Herr Conrad Gehrens.

Orchestra and Chorus of 1,500 performers.

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POLYTECHNIC. — COOKS and COOKERY — SPAIN—THE ISLE OF WIGHT, with new Views—THE MAGICIAN AND THE GENII, in which several wonderful illusions and mysteries will be shown. Daily, 12.0 and 7.0. Admission, 1s.

EGYPTIAN (LARGE) HALL.—Dr. LYNN, at 3.0 and 8.0.

EGYPTIAN HALL.—MASKELYNE AND COOKE, at 3.0 and 8.0.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL, Langham Place.—Mr. and Mrs. GERMAN REED, at 8.0. Thursday and Saturday, at 3.0 only.

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FREEMASONRY.—Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.—STAR and GARTER, Richmond.—Masters of Lodges and members of the Craft are respectfully informed that this Hotel will afford the best accommodation on that day for the brethren unable to attend Grand Lodge banquet.—An early application to the Manager will oblige.

PHOTOGRAPHS lately taken by Mr. T. P. Avery, for Baron Tetterborne's life size oil portrait of Grand Secretary Bro. John Hervey, in full Masonic regalia, are now ready, and can be had of all Masonic dealers, or from T. P. Avery, the publisher, 24 and 26 Ladbroke Grove Road, W.

See notice in "THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE," 11th April.

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67 BARBICAN, E.C.

THE WEEK'S HISTORY.

THE course of business in the House of Lords has not been marked by anything especially eventful. On Friday last the Earl of Belmore drew the attention of their Lordships to the different manner in which different Colonial Governors exercise the Royal Prerogative of Mercy. The Earl of Carnarvon having explained the nature of the special cases referred to, the House soon after read, a second time, the new Judicature Act Amendment Bill of the Government. On Monday two questions relating to foreign politics were addressed to the Earl of Derby, as our Foreign Secretary. The second of them had reference to the relations presently existing between Germany and Belgium, and the reply of Lord Derby expressed his belief that the integrity and independence of the latter country were in no wise affected by the remonstrance which the former has thought it necessary to offer on a certain point. The Indian Legislation Bill then passed through Committee, and their Lordships adjourned. Tuesday's was only a short sitting, to judge, at least, from the small amount of business transacted; though, according to the *Standard*, the Lord Chancellor took his seat on the Woolsack at 5 p.m., and their Lordships adjourned at "ten minutes to four o'clock." Thus, either the House sat close on *eleven hours*, or time, for once in its existence, progressed backwards. However this may be, the sitting of Thursday was a protracted one, the subject of discussion being the Agricultural Holdings (England) Bill, which made its way through Committee, certain of the clauses being amended, and some added to the Bill. The second reading of the County Courts Bill was afterwards agreed to, and the House rose a little before half-past eleven. On Friday, in the House of Commons, after the usual array of questions had been put and answered, Mr. Lewis moved that Mr. Francis Goodlake be called to the Bar of the House in reference to the publication in his journal of a certain letter impugning the conduct of the hon. member for Gravesend. To this, however, the Premier moved an amendment, that the matter be referred for information to the Foreign Loans Committee. This amendment, after a long and exciting debate, was carried by 231 to 166, and the orders referring to Messrs. Goodlake, printer of the *Times*, and Hales, printer of the *Daily News*, were subsequently discharged. The irrepressible Tichborne case was afterwards brought under notice, Mr. Whalley leading the way. The Home Secretary followed, and expressed the hope that Dr. Kenealy would bring forward his motion or question at the earliest possible opportunity. Of course Dr. Kenealy rose to say his say, and concluded a lengthy speech by expressing his conviction that the Home Secretary should take this case in hand, and advise Her Majesty to issue a Royal Commission of inquiry or discharge the prisoner. Mr. Bright

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advised the member for Stoke to give up stumping, and pay more attention to the interests of the public service, and Mr. Waddy brought down the House by urging the Government to prosecute the *Englishman*, loud and repeated cheers following every one of the concluding sentences of Mr. Waddy's speech. The subject afterwards dropped. The report of the committee of ways and means was then brought up and agreed to, and also a resolution in Committee authorising the appropriation of fifteen millions sterling from the Consolidated Fund for the service of the year. The adjourned debate on the Municipal Corporations (Ireland) Bill was next resumed, and again adjourned, and the House rose shortly after. On Monday the Tichborne subject was again referred to, the Premier offering Friday for the discussion of Dr. Kenealy's motion. The Artisans' Dwellings Bill then passed through Committee, sundry amendments being rejected, while a clause moved by Sir S. Waterlow was accepted by the Government. The next business was the second reading of the Public Health Bill which was agreed to, and the House then went into Committee on the Sale of Food and Drugs Bill, and having passed certain clauses progress was reported. On Tuesday, Lord Elcho brought forward a motion on the important question of Army Recruits, which led to a very long and interesting debate, many of the military and other members taking part in it, and among them the War Secretary. The motion was ultimately withdrawn, and sundry measures advanced a stage. Wednesday afternoon witnessed the defeat, by 248 to 234, of Mr. Morgan's Burial Bill on its second reading, the narrowness of the majority eliciting loud and long-continued cheering from the Opposition benches. On Thursday a variety of subjects were discussed, questions on the War in Spain, Cock Fighting, the Civil Service Inquiry Commission, and other matters, being asked and answered. On the motion for going into Committee on the Peace Preservation (Ireland) Bill, Mr. Biggar moved a resolution which was debated at some length, the Government ultimately acceding to a motion for the adjournment of the debate. A Committee on the New Forest was afterwards nominated, and the House rose at half-past one o'clock.

On Friday last, the thirtieth anniversary festival of the German Hospital, was held at Willis's Rooms, St. James's. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales presided. Among those present was H.R.H. Prince Christian of Denmark, their Serene Highnesses Prince Teck and Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, Count Beust, Count Münster, Baron de Cetto, Baron de Reuter, and other Germans resident in this country. His Royal Highness was received with great enthusiasm; his health, proposed by Baron Beust, being responded to with three times three, and appropriately acknowledged. In proposing the toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the German Hospital," His Royal Highness entered at considerable length into the merits of the Institution, announcing, among other matters, that one of those present, Baron Von Diergardt, of Bonn, had sent, a few years ago, the magnificent donation of £10,000 towards supporting the Hospital, and also alluded to the announcement, made by Baron Beust, that the Emperor of Austria had sent a donation of £100. The toast was duly honoured, after which Baron Schroeder stated that the subscriptions and donations together would exceed £5,000, the collections, last year, amounting, after deduction of the expenses, to £3,800. On Sunday, their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales attended divine Service, for the first time, at the newly restored parish Church of St. Margarets, King's Lynn. Though the visit was essentially of a private character, the Church was crowded to excess, while numbers filled the adjoining streets, the Prince and Princess being received with respectful salutations which were very gracefully and graciously acknowledged. On Saturday evening, H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge honoured the First Lord of the Treasury with his company at dinner, at the official residence in Downing Street, among the other guests being the Lord Chancellor, the Earl of Jersey, the Earl of Shaftesbury, the Earl of Lonsdale, and Lord Lyons, G.C.B., our ambassador at Paris. The same evening there was given a grand banquet at the Mansion House, by Bro. the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor. Two hundred and fifty guests, including Colonal Hogg, General Sir W. Codringham, and Mr. Sclater-Booth, M.P., sat down. The usual toasts were proposed and cordially responded to.

The application for a summons against Dr. Kenealy for libelling Mr. Wright, the sub-Editor of the *Morning Adviser*, has been heard and dismissed, Dr. Kenealy being warmly cheered by a number of people who had congregated outside Guildhall. The honourable Member for Stoke is becoming quite a conspicuous public character. Whether his popularity with the residuum of society is a credit to the Doctor or the said residuum, either or both, is quite an open question, on which we shall refrain from offering an opinion, but the less we say, the more we think. Or rather, like Lord Burleigh, in the *Critic*, we say nothing, because we are too deeply engrossed with thinking.

A most extraordinary case of cruelty to animals is reported from the neighbourhood of Brighton. It seems that a certain Mrs. Chantrell lives at Rottingdean, near that town. This woman has twice during the last three years had proceedings taken against her for starving her cats and dogs, and on each occasion been convicted, the sentence passed upon her the second time being two months' imprisonment without the option of paying a fine. These convictions were affirmed at Quarter Sessions, but her counsel carried an appeal to the Queen's Bench, Mrs. Chantrell being, in the meantime, out on bail. Recently, it appears, the officers of that useful body, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, got wind that Mrs. Chantrell was still pursuing her inhuman practices. They contrived by stratagem to gain entrance to her house, and there found an old woman and a large number of cats and dogs all in a most fearful state of starvation. Their solicitor, Mr. Leslie, next brought the case before Vice-Chancellor Malins, the old woman in charge having stated that the house and property had passed into the hands of the Court of Chancery. He promised that the receiver should at once take possession, and Mr. Leslie and sundry officers forthwith went down to Rottingdean, where they found the house barred, entrance being refused and Mrs. Chantrell herself appearing, armed with a poker, and defying them. Admission, however, was gained and the house searched, but the cats and dogs *non sunt inventi*. These had been removed to a cottage hard by, and here the officers found them, and having obtained a sufficient quantity of poison, the whole of the wretched creatures were put out of their misery. The sight is said to have been most revolting, one dog having pupped during the first visit, and ravenously devoured its offspring. We hope the appeal lodged by this disgrace to humanity, in the Queen's Bench, will be heard as soon as possible, and if no mitigating circumstances are found, that the sentence of imprisonment will be enforced. Nor see we any reason why this Royal Society, which has acted with so much energy in the case, should not take further proceedings against her, with a view to obtaining, on proof of guilt, a further and severer punishment, so that Mrs. Chantrell may be taught that even cats and dogs must be treated, if not with kindness, at least in accordance with the ordinary rules of humanity. It is well for her, perhaps, that the inhabitants of the neighbourhood where she lives, were successfully restrained by the constables from entering her house, or, possibly, Judge Lynch might have had something to say to her.

The most important event in the sporting world, is the death, at the comparatively early age of 61, of Sir Joseph Hawley, one of the most strenuous supporters of the turf. To have once carried off what is known as the "Blue Riband of the Turf," is an honour which every owner of a racing stud hopes to secure, while a few only are successful in their ambition. Yet Sir Joseph Hawley won the Derby more than once, in 1851 with Teddington, in 1858 with Beadsman, and subsequently with Musjid and Blue gown, besides carrying off the Oaks, and other of the principal events in racing. He was known to be a man of great judgment in horseflesh, and his Rosicrucian realised the handsome price of six thousand two hundred guineas. He is said to have won the largest amount of money that ever passed into one man's hands at Tattersalls, over a single race. With the late Early of Derby and Admiral Rous, Sir Joseph Hawley may be reckoned the most conspicuous turfite of the last quarter of a century. As he leaves no male issue, the baronetcy becomes extinct.

The Lea Conservancy Board have been successful in the proceedings they initiated against Mr. J. F. Harrison, M.P., for polluting that river with Sewage. Evidence was given which bore out the charge, and proved that the inhabitants dwelling near this river ran terrible risks of typhoid fever. Accordingly, the magistrate, Mr. Flowers,

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inflicted a fine of £10 and 10s per day from the 3rd December to the 2nd April, 109 days, together with five guineas, or in all £70 15s. Mr. Harrison gave notice of appeal.

Dr. Sedgwick Saunders was presented on Monday afternoon with a handsome testimonial, consisting of a pair of candelabra, a Warwick vase, and a silver claret jug, in recognition of the valuable services he had rendered in connection with the new Guildhall Library. This new building was erected at a cost of over £100,000, and was opened to the public in the year 1872; and so appreciated is this boon that within a year from the opening of the Library, there were no less than 12,000 readers. The presentation was made at the Mansion House by the Lord Mayor, in the presence of Aldermen Sir W. Rose, Sir T. Dakin, Sir C. Whetham, Mr. M'Arthur, M.P., Sir John Bennett, Dr. Guy, and others; and Dr. Saunders suitably acknowledged the gift. In the evening Mr. John Symonds, Chairman of the Library Committee of the Corporation entertained, at the London Tavern, about eighty guests, including Brothers the Lord Mayor, Sir Albert Woods, Æn. M'Intyre, Q.C., Major General Brownrigg, C.B., James Glaisher, and others, Dr. Saunders being also present.

A terrible balloon accident has recently occurred in France. MM. Gaston Tissandier, Croce-Spinelli and Sivel started in the balloon Zenith, from Paris, at noon, on the 15th instant, with a view to making experiments in the upper strata of the atmosphere. The aeronauts had taken with them bottles of oxygen in order to counteract the effects of the rarification of the air above a certain height. When the balloon reached the ground, the same afternoon, near Ciron, two were found dead, while the third, M. Tissandier, was badly hurt, but recovered sufficiently to send off a despatch, announcing the fatal results of the expedition to his two companions. Great sympathy is felt for them.

The most important matters abroad are the contest between Church and State in Prussia, and what is known as the Germanic Belgian question, Germany having addressed remonstrances to the little Kingdom of Belgium which are thought to affect the liberty of the press. So far, however, as the statements made in Parliament, by our Premier in the Commons, and his Foreign Secretary, the Earl of Derby, in the Lords, there is no reason to fear that anything more than a friendly remonstrance is intended, and that Germany has no intention of doing aught that will injure the interests of our little Belgian *protégé*. As to the first named question, the Draft Bill for disendowing the Roman Catholic Churches is about to be submitted to the Emperor, whose sanction is anticipated by all save the Clerical party.

In France there is nothing of particular importance to note, the good people of Paris appear to have come to the belief that all danger of war is at an end for the present. How long that "present" may last is another question. By a recent census taken in Vienna and its suburbs, the returns show the number of inhabitants to be 1,001,999, an increase of about 30,000 since 1872. A renewal of hostilities has taken place, in Spain. The telegrams announce no important contest, but a few skirmishes and minor engagements have taken place with the usual result of casualties in the shape of killed and wounded. Is it not nearly time that this unhappy struggle, in which neither party can apparently gain a decisive or even a marked success, were brought to an end by a convention? The commencement of Alphonso's reign appears to be as little auspicious as the rule of his republican predecessors. If, instead of persecuting Protestants and Masons, the young King's advisers would strive to bring peace to their unfortunate country, they would be doing a noble work. But peace rarely finds a home in Spain, at least for any length of time.

Our readers will remember the poor portrait-painter, in Nicholas Nickleby, who painted suits of clothes with heads sticking out of them. Some of our spirited photographers, it would appear, are following the example of Miss La Creevy; at all events, we are under the impression that a lay figure, which is now doing duty as the photographic portrait of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, in the costume of Grand Master of the Order, was originally the property of the Earl of Zetland. On the accession of the Marquis of Ripon, the photographic suit of clothes, with all its blushing honours on its breast, was again paraded before the world, and recently the likeness of the most noble Marquis has been removed from the negative, and the features of the Prince of Wales substituted. There is an air of venerable middle age about the neck-tie of the figure which ill accords with the face above it. The photograph will, however, no doubt satisfy the public, who may perhaps have just a suspicion that His Royal Highness employs a tailor who has no aptitude for preparing the costume of men of fashion.

We have now before us a proof copy of the portrait of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, in full costume of Grand Master of Freemasons, on the throne of his Installation, which is being published by our enterprising Brother E. J. Harty, of Barnard's Inn, whose artistic talents are now becoming well-known and appreciated. Apart from the likeness to its illustrious original, which is the most pleasing we have yet seen anywhere, this engraving will rank high for elegance of design and excellence of execution. There is a charming softness of tone about it which is rarely attained, and evinces the greatest care in the hands of the highest talent. A difficulty which is usually experienced in the production of mere "portraits," has been overcome, and a "picture," adapted for *decorating* either Lodge room or drawing room, is the result. We trust this admirable work may prove a pecuniary success, and that, as a fine-art memorial of a great event, it may decorate the hearths and homes of "Free and Accepted" Brethren throughout the land.

The Grand Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday the 21st inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Bro. J. Clabon in the chair. Grants from the former meeting, to the amount of £470, were confirmed, and 19 new cases wherein fresh applicants received relief. The Grand Lodge of Benevolence was closed until the following month. Among those present were Bros. J. Savage, Hyde Pullen, Jas. Brett, J. Nunn, J. Boyd, C. A. Cottebrune, H. Norman, H. Dicketts, R. W. Little, J. Smith, W. Smith, H. Garrod, J. Willing jun., Marsh, Thomas, S. Rosenthal, Thomas, R. W. Stewart, H. E. Hensworth, Parsons, White, Leman, H. M. Levy, &c.

The 1st meeting of the brethren who have consented to act as Stewards for the 77th Anniversary Festival for the Royal Masonic Festival for Boys, to be held on Wednesday the 30th June, 1875, will take place at Freemasons' Hall, on Tuesday, the 27th instant, at 5 o'clock.

His Royal Highness Prince Leopold was raised to the sublime degree, at an Emergency Meeting of the Apollo Lodge, No. 357, which was held on Saturday evening last, and afterwards took his place as Senior Warden, to which office in that Lodge he had been appointed a short time since. Bro. R. H. Collins, M.A., of Lincoln College, secretary to our Royal brother, was also raised on this occasion.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked on Thursday, 29th April, at Bro. Frampton's, "White Hart," College-street, Lambeth, where the members of the Vitruvian Lodge of Instruction invite the attendance of members of the Craft.

We are given to understand that Bro. E. J. Harty, of 9 Barnard's Inn, Holborn, has received permission to attend the approaching Installation for the purpose of making sketches of the ceremony, from which it is his intention to produce a magnificent historical line engraving, embodying portraits of the élite of the Brotherhood. An event so significant in every way as that ceremony will prove, deserves to be worthily perpetuated. This, Bro. Harty promises, with the aid of the first talent obtainable in Europe, to effect.

Bro. Thomas Kettle, No. 72, is the acting manager of the Mirror Theatre Royal, Holborn, under the management of Mr. Horace Wigan, which will open on the 24th inst., with a new comedietta by C. L. Kenny, entitled *Maids of Honour*, to be followed by the late Tom Taylor's drama of the *Hidden Hand*, and conclude with a new Farce, called

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Make Yourselves at Home, supported by a powerful company, it is to be hoped that with the well-known talents of the manager, the theatre may prove a success.

Bro. Harry Jackson, the talented artiste, whose "Heads of the People" have created such a furore in London and the provinces, announces his benefit, at Bro. Nugent's, the "Cambridge," Commercial Street, on Tuesday, 27th inst.

The Lodge of Joppa, No. 188, possesses a Fund of Benevolence, for the relief of its decayed members, which amounts to over £1100. Bro. L. M. Auerhaan, its treasurer, with the members of his family, have been such liberal contributors, that a special tablet is to be painted, showing the several amounts they have given.

THE DRAMA.

The Prince of Wales's Theatre and the Merchant of Venice—The St. James's—Recent announcements.

ON Saturday last the *Merchant of Venice* was produced at the PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE. No event of greater importance has taken place in the theatrical world since the first appearance of Mr. Irving in *Hamlet* at the Lyceum. The well earned reputation of Mrs. Bancroft's theatre has been made in the performance of modern comedies: her company has been trained almost entirely in the tea-cup and saucer style of acting, and the world was naturally anxious to see how it would acquit itself in a piece so foreign in kind to Mr. Robertson's comedies. Shakespeare's play has been but little altered in form, the most notable change being that it is divided, for the sake of greater clearness, into seven scenes instead of five acts; the dresses and scenery are distinguished by their accuracy and good taste; even the act-drop is pressed into the service, and presents a beautiful view of Venice, painted last year by Mr. Gordon. Everything has been done that care could do to make the representation as perfect as possible. Turning to the acting, Miss Ellen Terry has been secured as the Portia of the play; this charming character could hardly have been placed in better hands. Miss Terry's rendering of the character is lighter in touch than any other which we can call to mind, and she depicts admirably the little touches of playfulness and waywardness which combine so well with Portia's womanly tenderness and love. Miss Carlotta Addison is satisfied to undertake the part of Nerissa, and the audience is satisfied with her performance. Antonio is played by Mr. Archer, with all the manly dignity which the merchant shows, andthe Gratiano of Mr. Lin Rayne is satisfactory. The minor characters are all well filled, Mr. Collette as the Duke, and Mr. Bancroft as the Prince of Morocco being especially good. We have reserved to the last all mention of Mr. Coghlan's Shylock. We cannot but think that in depicting the Jew as simply a cold, calculating money lender, he has made a serious mistake. Mr. Coghlan plays throughout with an entire absence of emotion: all that passion of hate of his Christian enemies, and of love for his daughter, which we associate with Shylock's name is wanting, and with it the whole motive of the play. No cold, hard, West End usurer, such as Mr. Coghlan's Shylock, would have stipulated for a pound of flesh as forfeit; he would have been satisfied with sixty or a hundred per cent. The rendering of the part is an entirely mistaken one, and does serious injustice both to the actor and the play. If Mr. Coghlan had been satisfied to play the part in the accustomed way, the success of the revival would have been complete; but new readings of old parts are now the rage, and the new readings are not always improvements; in this case, the new reading of Shylock disappointed an indulgent audience, and marred an otherwise brilliant success.

To-night the programme at the ST. JAMES'S is entirely changed. *Brighton* is withdrawn, to make way for a new comedy by Mr. Gilbert, to which we wish all success. *Conrad and Medora* also disappears, and we regret that we can no longer be charmed by the delightful acting and singing of Miss Litton and Miss Hodson.

Mr. Albery's new comedy is announced for speedy production at the OLYMPIC.

At the STRAND, Mr. Byron's new play, *Weak Women*, will shortly replace *Intimidad*.

Mr. Horace Wigan opens the doors of the MIRROR theatre to-night, with a company which comprises many old favourites.

DRURY LANE—OTHELLO.

THE circumstances attending the sudden popularity of Sig. Salvini's Othello will furnish strong arguments to the people who insist that the recent Shakspearian successes proceed from a fashionable whim rather than from any salutary change in public taste. Upon his first appearance at Drury Lane the sustained and subtle power of Salvini was promptly recognised by the few English actors whose engagements permitted them to witness his representation of the part, but it was not until after the singular request of the London actors for a morning performance was advertised that the public mind began to be exercised by the new interpreter of Shakspeare. Such a generous and unprecedented tribute to the genius of a brother artist as that requisition conveyed, at once arrested the attention of a public always eager for a new sensation, and it is therefore at least doubtful whether the present rush to Drury Lane is the result of idle curiosity or intelligent appreciation of the actor's art. Be that as it may, however—and we are not concerned at present to decide one way or the other—no spectator of this representation of the perplexed Moor can fail to succumb to the commanding power displayed in Salvini's impersonation of the character. From the first appearance of Othello upon the scene, attended by all the surroundings of pride and place, till Cassio rules in Cyprus, and the curtain falls upon the abused and miserable suicide, the spectator is under the spell of a magician, a condition in which criticism is out of the question. On the other hand, to an audience observant, and it may be expectant of the traditional "points" common to the conventional interpretations of Othello, the earlier scenes will seem tame by comparison. In the street scene with Brabantio and his followers, "keep up your bright swords" is pronounced in tones almost conversational in placidity of utterance, and the address to the Senate is characterised by a smoothness of manner whi h must necessarily diminish its effect in a theatre so large as that of Drury Lane. But all that quiet dignity vanishes upon the access of jealousy, the subtle approach of which is marked in every line of the actor's expressive face. Indignant surprise when the honesty of his wife is questioned, the perplexity and even terror engendered by the doubt, and the savage wrath of the husband believing himself wronged, are portrayed without exaggeration indeed, but with a truth and force that carries everything before them.

Much of the effect produced by the genius of the actor is, however, diminished in the end by the injudicious curtailment to which the action of the last scene has been subjected by the Italian translator of the play. The tiger-like savagery Othello displays in the murder of his wife, is hurriedly succeeded by a childish credulity upon the first protest of Emilia. There is here no cumulation of proof upon proof, culminating in the killing of Emilia by the incensed Iago, the act which carries conviction to the perplexed mind of Othello that he has been miserably deceived, as the text of Shakspeare plainly shows. Whether the actor is responsible for this curious blunder or not we are unable to say, but even if it is so, his impersonation of Othello is so remarkable for art entirely devoid of artifice that he will find very few among his audience or his critics disposed to dwell upon any defect in the arrangement of the play.

The representatives of the other characters, although dwarfed into comparative insignificance by their chief, are deserving of praise. The Desdemona of Signora Giavagnoli is distinguished by the requisite grace and gentleness of the text. The Iago of Signor Carboni, although too palpably villainous, and exhibiting none of the apparent frankness which alone enabled that personage to deceive everybody about him, is nevertheless a meritorious performance from the actors' point of view, and the character of Cassio attains more than usual importance from the manly rendering of Signor Fabbri.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

The following statement shows the receipts for traffic on the undermentioned railways for the past week, as compared with the corresponding week in 1874:—

Railway.	Miles open. 1875	Receipts. 1875 £	1874 £
Caledonian	737½	55,350	50,796
Glasgow and South Western	315½	16,744	15,241
Great Eastern	763	48,176	42,925
Great Northern	517	54,261	50,467
Great Western	1,525	100,186	105,111
Lancashire and Yorkshire	430	62,302	59,345
London and Brighton	376½	28,639	27,892
London, Chatham and Dover	153½	16,616	15,139
London and North Western	1,582½	168,098	161,771
London and South Western	626½	35,699	34,598
London, Tilbury and Southend	45	1,799	2,101
Manchester and Sheffield	259½	31,730	29,447
Midland	944½	108,797	97,892
Metropolitan	8	9,123	8,452
" " District	8	5,314	4,362
" " St. John's Wood	1½	474	444
North British	839	41,257	36,631
North Eastern	1,379	121,654	114,934
North London	12	6,980	6,768
North Staffordshire Railway	190	10,282	9,247
" " Canal	118	1,734	1,492
South Eastern	350	32,307	31,400

CYRUS.—Cyrus, king of Persia, was a great conqueror, and after having reduced nearly all Asia, he crossed the Euphrates, and laid siege to Babylon, which he took by diverting the course of the river which ran through it. The Jews, who had been carried away by Nebuchalnezzar on the destruction of the Temple, were then remaining as captives in Babylon. These Cyrus released A.M. 3466, or B.C. 538, and sent them back to Jerusalem to rebuild the house of God, under the care of Joshua, Zerubbabel, and Haggai. Hence, from this connection of Cyrus with the history of Masonry, he plays an important part in the rituals of many of the high degrees.—*Mackey.*

CLUB HOUSE PLAYING CARDS.—Mogul Quality, picked 1s 3d per pack, 14s per dozen packs. Do. seconds 1s per pack, 11s per dozen packs. If by post 1½d per pack extra. Cards for Piquet, Bézique, Ecarté, &c., Mogul quality 10d per pack, 8s per dozen packs.—London: W. W. Morgan, 57 Barbican, E.C.

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DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be greatly obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the kingdom would favour us with a copy of their summonses each time of issue.

SATURDAY, 24th APRIL.

1462—Wharncliffe, Rose and Crown Hotel, Penistone.

MONDAY, 26th APRIL.

4—Royal Somerset House and Inverness, Freemasons' Hall.
26—Castle Lodge of Harmony, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.
28—Old Kings Arms, Freemasons' Hall.
79—Pythagorean, Ship Tavern, Royal Hill, Greenwich.
43—St. Paul's, Masonic Hall, Birmingham.
48—Industry, Freemasons' Hall, West-street, Gateshead.
62—Social, Queen's Hotel, Manchester.
148—Light, Masonic Rooms, Warrington.
827—St. John's, Masonic Temple, Halifax-road, Dewsbury, Yorkshire.
999—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
1073—Greta, Private Rooms, Keswick.
R. A. 241—Friendship, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
R. A. 303—Charity, Masonic Hall, Bradford.
K. T. 148—Stamford, Town Hall, Altrincham.

TUESDAY, 27th APRIL.

Audit Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
14—Tuscan, Freemasons' Hall.
92—Moira, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
141—Faith, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
145—Prudent Brethren, Freemasons' Hall.
186—Industry, 2 West Chambers, Victoria-street, Westminster.
205—Israel, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
259—Prince of Wales, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.
1196—Urban, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's-gate.
1348—Ebury, Morpeth Arms Tavern, Millbank.
R. A. 7—Royal York Chapter of Perseverance, Freemason's Hall.
226—Benevolence, Red Lion Hotel, Littleborough.
R. A. 94—De Lambton, Freemasons' Hall, Sunderland.
R. A. 823—Everton, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, 28th APRIL.

INSTALLATION OF H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES AS GRAND MASTER.

Grand Festival, Freemasons' Tavern.

THURSDAY, 29th APRIL.

General Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
39—St. John the Baptist, Masonic Hall, Exeter.
111—Restoration, Freemasons' Hall, Darlington.
286—Samaritan, Green Man Hotel, Bacup.
810—Craven, Devonshire Hotel, Skipton.
904—Phœnix, Ship Hotel, Westgate, Rotherham.
1145—Equality, Red Lion Hotel, Accrington.
R. A. 34—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
R. A. 275—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield.
R. A. 1214—Scarboro', Station Hotel, Upper Soothill, near Batley, Yorks.
K. T.—Alpass, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.

FRIDAY, 30th APRIL.

R. A. 134—Caledonian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
64—Fortitude, Queen's Hotel, Manchester.
263—Integrity, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
1061—Triumph, Market Hotel, Lytham.
1385—Gladsmuir, Red Lion Hotel, Barnet, Herts.
R. A. 123—Callender, Derby Hotel, Bury.
R. A. 242—Magdalen, Guildhall, Doncaster.

SATURDAY, 1st MAY.

General Committee, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
142—St. Thomas's, Willis's Rooms, King-street, St. James's.
1458—Truth, Royal Archer Inn, Manchester.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—349—St. Clair, Freemasons' Hall.
TUESDAY—151—Defensive Band, Alexander Hall, Cockburn-street.
" R. A. 40—Naval and Military, Freemasons' Hall.
FRIDAY—223—Trafalgar, 54 Bernard-street, Leith.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Grand Master's Lodge, No. 1.—A Special Lodge of Emergency was held on Thursday, the 22nd inst., for the purpose of receiving the Right Hon. Bro. D. H. Stone P.M. Bros. G. Payne W.M., Bayley P.G.S., Giraud Treasurer, J. Case Secretary, Hugh Sandeman District G.M. Bengal, Bro. Rawson D.G.M. (China) D.C., Sir F. W. Truscott P.G.S., J. E. Saunders P.G.D., Past Masters Heather Bigg, Hudson, A. Colls, and J. Bennett. The Lodge was opened, and Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Ellis and Bro. Rev. P. Conder were raised to the degree of Master Masons in a manner that elicited the warmest encomiums of all present. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a banquet provided by Bro. Francatelli, and superintended by Bro. Knill. The W.M. in brief terms gave the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts, and in proposing the toast of the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, alluded to the honour of that brother's visit, and said every member of the Lodge was proud and pleased to see him among them; he greeted him not only as a P.M. of the Lodge, but also as holding the high position of Chief Magistrate and Lord Mayor of the City of London. (Loud cheers.) The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, who, on rising, was greeted with loud cheers, said he reciprocated their kind expressions, and, although he had been an honorary member for some time, he would be pleased to become again a joining member, and cordially wished success to the Lodge. The toast of the visitors was coupled with the name of Bro. J. B. Monckton, Pres. Board of General Purposes. The W.M. stated there were other toasts, but he must necessarily shorten them, to enable the brethren to enjoy the concert. The musical entertainment, which was under the direction of Bro. F. Cowen, assisted by the following distinguished artistes from Her Majesty's Opera, by the kind permission of Bro. J. H. Mapleson, then commenced, and the following programme was most artistically rendered:—

TRIO, "Te sol quest' anima," . . . . (*Attila*) *Verdi*
Madlle. Risarelli, Signor Catalani and Signor Bignardi.
ARIA, "Che freddo," . . . . (*Don Chicco*) *De Giosa*
Signor Zoboli.
VARIATIONS, "Io vo' spezzar," . . . (*Caterina*) *Auber*
Madlle. Louise Singelli.
ARIA, "La mia letizia," . . . . (*Lombardi*) *Verdi*
Signor Brignoli.
CHANSON ESPAGNOL, "La Hamaca,"
Madlle. Risarelli.
DUO, "Dunque io son," . . . . (*Barbiere*) *Rossini*
Madlle. Louise Singelli and Signor Catalani.
ARIA, "Spirto gentil," . . . . (*Favorita*) *Donizetti*
Signor Bignardi.
CHANSON, "L'Absence," . . . . *Beethoven*
Signor Catalani.
DUO, "Quanto amore," . . . (*Elisire d'Amore*) *Donizetti*
Madlle. Risarelli and Signor Zoboli.
SONG, "Good-bye, sweetheart," . . . *Hatton*
Signor Brignoli.
POLACCA, "Son vergine," . . . (*Puritani*) *Bellini*
Madlle. Louise Singelli.
QUARTETTO, "Erimasto," . . . (*Don Pasquale*) *Donizetti*
Madlle. Risarelli,
Signor Catalani, Signor Zoboli, and Signor Brignoli.

The visitors were J. B. Monckton, Pres. Board General Purposes, Sir Albert Woods (Garter) G.D.C., Fenn Assistant G.D.C., J. Hervey G.S., W. Ganz P.G.O., Erasmus Wilson Chairman, G. Steward, A. Dicketts, P.G.S., Spooner 201, C. Martin 23.

Albion Lodge, No. 9.—The regular meeting of this old and flourishing Lodge was held on Wednesday the 14th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Air-street, Regent-street. Bro. R. Marsh W.M., S. Vallentine P.M. as S.W., Scott J.W., Moring P.M. Treasurer, S. Coste P.M. acting as Secretary, and P.M.'s E. Coste, H. Albert, Willey, W. H. Baylis, &c. The Lodge was opened and the minutes were confirmed; three brethren were passed to the second degree, and Mr. D. Sherrard came specially from Chester to be initiated in this Lodge. The ceremonies were excellently worked by the W.M. and officers. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a banquet, provided by Bro. Nicoll, that gave great satisfaction. The usual loyal and routine toasts followed. It was announced that on the conclusion of the ceremony of the Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, carriages would be provided for the members of the Lodge, to convey them to Greenwich, where a dinner is to take place in honour of that event.

Mount Sion Chapter, No. 22.—The regular Convocation of this chapter was held at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, on the 12th inst. Companions H. Muggeridge as M.E.Z., Crossfield H, H. Birdseye J, Partridge P.S. The chapter was opened and the minutes were confirmed. Ballots were then taken for the admission of Bros. Mark Richardson, M.D., of Lodge Canongate, Killwinning, Scotland, and Ralph D. M. Littler Q.C., of the Bank of England Lodge, No. 263. It is needless to say, that from the well known qualifications of the Principals, the work was admirably rendered. The chapter was then closed, and the companions sat down to a very *recherché* banquet, provided by Bros. Ritter and Clifford, which gave great satisfaction. The usual loyal and R.A. toasts were given, and some very excellent speeches by the newly exalted companions and the visitors, who were Bros. W. S. Gover, D. H. Jacobs, Breslaugh and Thomas, and some very capital harmony emanated from Companions Knox, H. Birdseye, D. H. Jacobs and J. Birdseye. The Chapter Convocations are held at the Guildhall Tavern, on the second Monday in October, November, January, February, March and April.

Egyptian Lodge of Instruction, No. 27.—At the weekly meeting of the Egyptian Lodge of Instruction, No. 27, held at Bro. Maidwell's, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall Street, E.C., on Thursday evening, 22nd April, Bro. Jas. Terry P.G.D.C. (Herts), Secretary Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, officiated as W.M., J. B. Poole P.M. and Secretary 27 S.W., J. Crawley P.M. 174 J.W. There was a good attendance of brethren to witness the rehearsal of the ceremony of Consecration by the W.M., Bro Terry, many of those present never having had an opportunity of witnessing that ceremony. Bro. T. Sheppard P.M. 27, then presented Bro Henro P.M. 27 as W.M. designate, who, being duly installed, appointed and invested his officers. On the proposition of Bro. Chapman, Secretary pro tem, seconded by Bro. Joseph Crawley J.W. (the Preceptor of the Egyptian Lodge of Instruction), a hearty vote of thanks was unanimously passed to Bro. Terry for the kind and able way in which he had rehearsed the ceremonies, to which Bro. Terry responded, and, all Masonic business being ended, the Lodge of Instruction was closed in due form, after which a few of the brethren supped together.

Fra Lodge of Mark Master Masons, No. 176.—The regular meeting of the above was held on Friday, at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark, Bro. J. T. Moss W.M., H. A. Dubois S.W., J. Baxter Langley J.W., T. H. Miller Treasurer, F. Walters P.G.P. P.M. Secretary, H. J. Green M.O., Horton S.O., W. Hammond J.O., J. Johnson I.G., &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Several candidates were to have been advanced, but apologies were sent for their non-attendance. The elections for the W.M., Treasurer and Tyler resulted as follow:—Bro. H. A. Dubois W.M., T. H. Miller re-elected Treasurer, and W. T. Laing re-elected Tyler. Several candidates were proposed for advancement, and the

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Lodge was closed. The brethren afterwards adjourned to a very capital banquet, provided by Bro. J. Spencer. The usual toasts were given, and the brethren separated.

Gilhall Lodge, No. 372, Ireland.—A meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, 1st inst., at the Lodge Rooms, Princes Street, Dromor, Co. Down, for the purpose of electing the officers for the ensuing six months. There were present Bros. John Baird W.M., H. W. Hall S.W., Robert Stewart J.W., Joseph Knox S.D., Joseph Baird J.D., John McCullagh D.C., James Jackson Steward, Christopher Nelson I.G., David Coury Tyler, Carlisle Wilson Secretary, John Watson Treasurer, W. Baird Past Master, and Israel Walker, of 203, Magherally, visitor.

Beadon Chapter, No. 619.—A Convocation of this Chapter was held at the Horns Tavern, Kennington, on Thursday, the 15th inst., Companions W. H. Green M.E.Z., R. J. Williams H., W. Seaman J., W. Angus S.E., &c. The Chapter was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Ballot having on a former occasion been taken, Bros. C. H. Webb, Acacia Lodge, No. 1314, J. F. Chubb 1314, and Beckworth, St. James's Lodge, No. 765, were duly exalted in Royal Arch Masonry. Comp. D. H. Jacobs P.M. 27 was unanimously elected a joining member. The Chapter was then closed, and the companions adjourned to a banquet, provided by Comp. Eaton. The usual toasts were given, and the Janitor's Toast concluded a very enjoyable evening.

New Concord Lodge, No. 813.—This capital working Lodge met, for the first time since the installation, at the Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton, Bro. Henry John Gabb W.M. in the chair, supported by the Wardens, Officers and Past Masters; Bro. W. Main P.M. and Secretary, Sinclair Treasurer, Gallant S.W., Cusworth J.D., Salisbury P.M., &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of the former meeting were read and confirmed. Ballots were taken for the admission of Messrs. B. G. R. Keast and Alfred Keast, which was unanimously in their favour. Bro. Dunn was raised to the third degree, and Bro. Wright was passed to the second degree, both ceremonies being ably and impressively performed by Bro. H. J. Gabb the W.M. The ticket for the installation of the M.W.G.M. was given to Bro. Sinclair, the Treasurer of the Lodge. The death of Bro. John Murray was announced. He was initiated in the Lodge on the 21st of May 1874, and died on the 27th March 1875, deeply regretted. Bro. Cusworth J.D. is a Steward for the Anniversary Festival of the Boys' School on the 30th June. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a capital supper, provided by the worthy host, Bro. H. Gabb. On the removal of the cloth the W.M. proposed the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts. Bro. John Emmens P.M. P.G.P. returned thanks for the toast of the Grand Officers. Bro. Cusworth J.W. responded to the toast of the Masonic Charities. Bro. W. H. Main P.M. and Secretary returned thanks for the P.M.'s, and, in the course of a very eloquent speech, urged the necessity of brethren attending Lodges of Instruction. He directed attention to the ceremonies that were to be worked on the 21st instant by Bro. James Terry, at the new Concord Lodge of Instruction, and said he was sure that all who attended would have a great Masonic treat. Bro. Fowkes, of the Crystal Palace Lodge, responded as a visitor. He thanked the Lodge for its hospitality, and complimented the W.M. for his able working. Bro. Sinclair responded to the toast of the Officers, and personally thanked the Lodge for the honour conferred on him by their presenting him with the ticket, for the 28th inst., for the Albert Hall. This would be an event that would never be forgotten. The Tyler's toast followed. Some very capital harmony emanated from Bros. Salisbury, Swales, Baylis and Cusworth. The new Concord Lodge of Instruction is held every Wednesday evening, at 8 o'clock, at the Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton.

Lodge of Montefiore, No. 1017.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, the 14th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. Bros. Grunebaum W.M., Blum S.W., Victor M. Myers J.W., L. Jacobs Treasurer, E. P. Albert P.M. Secretary, Salomon I.G. and P.M., J. D. Solla, S. V. Abrahams, A. D. Loewenstark, J. Lazarus, S. Pollitzer, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the work consisted of one passing and one initiation, conducted, by the courtesy of the W.M., by Bro. Loewenstark P.M. The Master Mason's ticket for the installation of the M.W.G.M. was unanimously voted to Bro. L. Jacobs, the Treasurer. A notice of motion was given, that the Lodge meeting in future be held on the last Thursday in the month, instead of the second Wednesday. The Lodge was then closed.

Hervey Lodge, No. 1260.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, on Wednesday, 14th April, when there was a large attendance of the brethren, among whom we noticed Bros. C. Darby W.M., G. Harrison S.W., J. H. Southwood J.W., W. Jabez Hogg P.G.D. Treasurer and W.M. elect, King jun. P.M. and Secretary, Hollingsworth S.D., King P.M. D.C., Kingcombe, Monnery, Hooper, Bigwood, Herring, Rodgkinson, Burley, Portway, Goodacre, Spalding, Washbourne, Vine, J. Sandilands Ward and others; while among the visitors we noticed Bros. J. Hervey, G. Sec., who is godfather of the Lodge, and also honorary member; V.W. Rev. R. J. Simpson P.G.C., Professor Erasmus Wilson P.G.S. F.R.S., Dr. Benj. Richardson F.R.S. P.M. St. Andrew's, C. H. Hopwood M.P. Q.C. P.P.G.W. P.M. 263, F. Elmore 12, J. Green S.W. 27, Dr. J. G. Defriez S.D. 45, P. E. Van Noorden Org. 188, Holland P.M. 172, Henuell 181, G. S. Marks and M. Marks 205, H. Evans 212, E. J. Sears 299, Ballard 511, H. Massey P.M. 619, Seymour Smith 742, T. Garner P.M. 890, R. H. Harvey P.M. 902, J. Wright W.M. 1158, R. C. Davis, and Speight Tyler. Owing to the amount of business, the Lodge was opened at 2 p.m. punctually. The minutes of the last Lodge and two Lodge of Emergency meetings were read and confirmed. Bro. Monnery was raised to the third degree, and Bro. Hooper passed to the second degree. The W.M. then resigned the chair to Bro. King, jun. P.M. and Secretary (the Installing Master), who initiated Messrs. J. Cox, J. Mansell and C. W. Robins into the mysteries of the Order in his usual perfect manner. The Lodge was resumed to the second degree, when, after the usual introductory charge, Bro. King P.M. and D.C. presented W. Bro. Jabez Hogg P.G.D. P.M. and W.M. elect for installation. A large board of Installed Masters was then formed, and W. Bro. Hogg was installed into the chair of K.S. according to ancient custom. At the conclusion of the ceremony the new W.M. appointed and invested with the collars of their respective Offices Bros. G. Harrison S.W., J. H. Southwood J.W., C. Darby I.P.M. Treasurer, Bro. G. King jun. P.M. Secretary, Hollingsworth S.D., J. Sandilands Ward J.D., Kingcombe I.G., King P.M. D.C., and Speight Tyler. Bro. King jun., the Installing Master, gave the addresses to Master Wardens and Brethren in a most impressive and forcible manner. Bro. P. E. Van Noorden presided at the organ, and played throughout the whole of the ceremonies in his usual effective style. Votes of thanks were passed, and ordered to be entered on the minutes, to Bro. G. Harrison S.W. for a very handsome set of W.M., P.M., S.W. and J.W.'s collars and jewels; to Bro. Southwood J.W. for the very handsome menu cards for the banquet; to Bro. Kingcombe I.G. for an engraved copper plate for the Lodge Summonses. The W.M. then presented and invested the I.P.M., Bro. C. Darby, with a very handsome P.M.'s jewel (the work of Bro. R. C. Davis), for his ability in carrying out the duties of W.M. during the past year. Bro. Darby acknowledged the honour in a becoming speech. One of the auditors presented the balance sheet, and read the report, which congratulated the Lodge upon its financial position. This was received and adopted. Bro. Harrison gave notice of motion, that a committee be formed to carry out arrangements for the annual summer banquet. Bro. Southwood J.W. gave the necessary notice of motion to raise the initiation and joining fees. A telegram was received from the V.W. Rev. C. J. Martyn P.G. Chaplain, also letters from Sir Albert Woods (Garter) G.D.C., Bro. Fenn A.G.D.C. regretting their inability to be present. After some propositions, the Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to Simpson's 103 Strand, where they sat down to a most elegant banquet, under the personal superintendance of Bro. Cathie. The usual toasts were given and responded to. The musical arrangements, under the direction of Bro. Seymour Smith, assisted by Bros. P. E Van Noorden and F. Elmore, gave great satisfaction. Bro. G. W. King jun. P.M. and Secretary has been selected to represent the Lodge at the Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and the cost of the commemoration jewel to be worn by him has been voted from the funds of the Lodge. It was also announced that the brethren of the Lodge would dine together at Simpson's on the 28th, to celebrate the event, but the W.M. (Bro. Hogg) will not be able to preside, being one of the privileged few entitled to dine at the Festival.

Acacia Lodge, No. 1309.—An Emergency Meeting of the above Lodge was held on the 20th inst. at the Prince Alfred Hotel, Southall. Bro. F. Walters P.G.P. Middlesex opened the Lodge, in which he was supported by Bros. C. A. Ferrier S.W., C. J. Rushworth J.W., J. H. Webster S.D., J. W. George J.D., H. D'Arcy as I.G., Charles Horsley, P.G.R. Middlesex P.M., and Bros. Murray, Davies, Kennard, &c. Bro. Chas. Horsley then raised Bro. J. Davies and J. A. Murray; passed Bro. H. Kerward, and initiated, seriatim, Rev. J. Morgan, Messrs. W. Carter, J. W. Hughes and E. Madders, the several ceremonies being perfectly worked in a very impressive manner. The Lodge was then closed, and refreshment followed, after which the brethren separated.

Metropolitan Lodge, No. 1507.—A Lodge of Emergency was held on Thursday, at the Metropolitan Club, 269 Pentonville Road. Present—Bros. J. Willing jun. W.M., R. T. Kingham J.D., J. J. Michael S.W., J. Douglass I.G., T. Williams J.W., R. Fowler D.C., G. Tims Secretary, G. Scales W.S. Also Bros. Sainsbury, Cheek, Stiles, Hatton, Jones, Cox, Cadett, A. Smith, Rapkin, Side, Horton, Cook, &c., Tritton, Shand. Visitors—Bros. Harris, T. Adams P.G.P., F. H. Plummer, G. Plummer, Robinson, Read, &c., Herton, Tritton, Shand, Sainsbury and F. H. Plummer. The Lodge was opened and Bro. Robinson of No. 177 was duly raised to third degree and Bro. Read passed to the second degree. Messrs. Taylor and Simons impressively initiated by the W.M. Bro. T. Adams P.G.P. unanimously elected honorary member of the Lodge. Bro. Brede of 73 unanimously elected joining member. Bro. Kingham J. D., one of the founders, received, by unanimous vote the M.M.'s ticket for the Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, to mark the appreciation by the Lodge of his working. The Bye Laws were read, and emphatically commended to the attention of the brethren by the W.M. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet, which was served in that inimitable manner the Metropolitan Club is famous for. After the usual toasts had been given the brethren separated.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—The Law of Life.—The present is a fitting opportunity for drawing attention to the few points on which health hinges. All impurities must be expelled from the system immediately their presence is discovered. Wear and tear must be compensated by suitable food, which, when thoroughly digested, enriches the blood with its nutritive elements, and by this means incites every organ throughout the body to its natural activity, rouses every muscle to its normal strength, confers tone on every vessel, energy on every nerve. The alterative virtues exerted by Holloway's purifying Pills exactly meet these requirements, and they further exercise distinctive and peculiar powers in steadying the nerves and regulating the circulation.

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PRESENTATION TO BRO. JOHN LAURIE.

ON Thursday evening, 15th inst., Bro. John Laurie, Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and P.R.W.M. of Canongate and Leith, L. and C. No. 5 Lodge of Freemasons, was entertained at a complimentary dinner in the Peacock Hotel, Newhaven. The occasion was also taken to present the honoured guest with a valuable token of the esteem of the members of the Lodge as well as other members of the Craft. The presentation, which was very valuable took the form of a handsome combined clock, barometer, &c., and a massive silver tea and coffee service for Mrs. Laurie. The former contained the following inscription:—"Presented to Bro. John Laurie, along with a service of silver plate, by the Office Bearers and Brethren of Lodge Canongate and Leith, L. and C. No. 5, in recognition of his valuable services and the able manner in which he discharged the duties of R.W. Master. Leith, 15th April 1875." Bro. Mathieson P.M. Tolbooth Wynd, supplied the articles.

About fifty gentlemen sat down to dinner, including members of a number of sister Lodges. Bro. Officer S.S.C., Past Senior Grand Deacon, and Past Master of No. 1, presided, and Bro. E. Drummond R.W.M. acted as croupier. After dinner, which was purveyed in Mrs. Main's customary satisfactory manner,

The CHAIRMAN proposed "The Queen," "The Three Grand Masters," and "The Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces," to which was coupled the name of Sergeant Bryce.

The CHAIRMAN then rose and asked the company to join him in drinking to the health of their honoured and respected friend, Bro. Laurie. (Cheers.) He had great pleasure in giving this toast from the chair, although he wished it had been filled by a better man, in order to have done it full justice, but if wanting in ability he excelled in a desire to pay honour to their guest. He had long and intimately known Bro. Laurie. He had seen him discharge various and many responsible duties in connection with their Craft—as Assistant Secretary to the late Grand Secretary, as Grand Clerk, and now as occupying the responsible and laborious office of Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. Those who knew what the duties of that office were would understand somewhat the amount of labour, tact, and consideration required in their discharge. In Bro. Laurie he had found one of the most urbane, generous, and kind-hearted fellows he had ever met with. But further, he discharged his duties with a capability and with a vast knowledge of the details—a knowledge probably not excelled by any living member of the Scottish Craft. Knowledge, they had been told long ago by that great philosopher, Benjamin Franklin, was power, and this was fully exemplified in the person of the Grand Secretary. Many people went to him, and many irksome questions were put to him, which their friend would often feel a difficulty in dealing with, but his ability overcame all. They in Leith had been more intimately connected with him of late in the discharge of the duties of Master of Lodge No. 5. During the short period he held that office he had won their respect, and also the admiration of every one who had sat under his rule and who had the interest of Masonry at heart, and in particular the honour of that Lodge. He was very gratified they had met in such large numbers to mark the thorough respect and deep esteem they entertained for him, and more so as they were able to present to him a substantial mark—not merely empty words—of that respect and esteem. He only reiterated what they all deeply felt in expressing the deep sympathy and heartfelt sorrow they entertained for the grievous affliction which had overtaken him; but he sincerely trusted that the Great Architect of the Universe would be pleased to give him strength to endure, and that in a future time they would be able to give him a hearty reception. He had now to ask him to accept of the testimonial as an indication of the high respect and esteem in which he was held by them, and of the deep gratitude which they all felt for the very efficient and admirable manner in which he had discharged the duties of Master of Lodge No. 5, and in doing so he expressed a heartfelt wish that God would bless him and all connected with him, and give him every bountiful grace which possibly could devolve upon him. (Loud cheers.)

The toast was honoured enthusiastically, after which,

Bro. LAURIE said he thought it was one of the most delightful features in connection with a meeting such as that, that it made one feel perfectly at home. He was sure if there was anything calculated to give him confidence, placed in the trying circumstances in which he found himself that evening, it was the kind, genial faces which surrounded him. He earnestly wished he could rise to the level of the occasion, but he was sorry to say that while he did not wish to descend into anything like weakness, the rather enfeebled state of health in which he found himself exercised a depressing influence, which took away all power of replying in adequate terms to the cordial toast as proposed by Brother Officer, and so heartily and kindly responded to by them. In the very fact that they had selected Bro. Officer to preside over the meeting he recognised a kindness and consideration which he thoroughly appreciated. Bro. Officer was one of the oldest and best friends he had had in connection with Masonry. He had given them some little account of his connection with the Grand Lodge, and had been kind enough to speak in eulogistic terms regarding him, but he assured them if he had had the happiness of gaining the approbation and earning the satisfaction of the brethren with whom he had come in contact, and in some measure discharging the duties that had fallen to his lot, it had been because such true-hearted Masons as the Chairman had kindly lent him their encouragement, their countenance, and their support. He took the liberty of saying, therefore, how thoroughly he appreciated Brother Officer's kindness in coming to preside, and had to thank the brethren in selecting him to occupy the chair. And now what could he say in responding to their very generous and hearty kindness, as manifested in the munificent presentation which they had been pleased to offer as a testimonial of their regard? He felt that it was quite beyond his power to give expression to his feelings—indeed, words were too poor to say how deeply he thanked them. He thanked them not only for this expression of their esteem and respect, but for the kind expression of sympathy which had accompanied it. It was true that he had had some little experience in connection with their Craft. A good many years had passed away since he entered upon the duties in connection with their Order, and as had been very truly remarked by the Chairman, he had necessarily gained a considerable knowledge of the details and matters affecting the interests of the Order, and no doubt, as he had very aptly put it, "knowledge was power," and had greatly assisted him in being able to discharge the duties of his office. Having undertaken that office, he had endeavoured as far as it lay in his power to discharge them so as to merit the satisfaction and appreciation of his brethren. He had not altogether achieved what he had hoped, and what if spared, in the good providence of God, he might yet achieve, but he was glad that, so far as time had run he had not to look back with anything like regret upon the exercise of the offices or the contact it had led him into with the brethren. It was his ambition to be associated with the progress of the Craft in this country. As regarded his relationship to Lodge No. 5, although it was a great many years since he had had the honour of being connected with the Lodge, the time in which he had the more intimate relationship of holding office in it was comparatively short. They were good enough to ask him to occupy the chair of Lodge No. 5, and even in that there was an act of kindness. At the time that that request was preferred it became a matter almost of necessity that he should in the discharge of the other office he held have the chair or installed master's degree. That of course he had not attained previously, and when the request was made to occupy the chair of No. 5, he recognised in it a kindly desire on the part of his brethren in Leith to set the question at rest. During the time he had the honour and happiness of occupying the chair of No. 5, he had enjoyed a delightful twelve months. He could truly say that from the first hour he had the pleasure of coming in contact with the members of No. 5, up to that moment, he had not had occasion to have a single jarring word, or a single unpleasant reminiscence to look back upon. Their meetings were thoroughly harmonious and pleasant; and although he came a comparative stranger among them, he received such hearty support, and at all times met with such consideration, that it was impossible that a more pleasant and profitable year could have been spent. He regretted that just at its close an unfortunate ailment had overtaken him, and since then it had almost been out of his power to be present at the meetings. He regretted that very much, as he had looked forward this year to be as frequently in his place as he had been in the past, and doing whatever little lay in his power to support the R.W.M. in the discharge of his office. It had been a source of great satisfaction to know—for he had been carefully informed of the proceedings of the Lodge—that its labours had been carried on with unabated zeal. For him to say that he thanked them most sincerely and from his heart was but simply to convey to them all that words could. He trusted that after the ordeal to which the chairman had referred had passed away, if it pleased a kind Providence to spare him through it, they would find in his attendance and support of the Lodge that evidence of his appreciation which he could not possibly express in words. He had felt touched with the very kind manner in which the presentation had been made in so far as they had remembered one who was much dearer to him than himself—one who had been a sort of guiding star to him through life, with whom he had now been associated for the last twenty years—a true-hearted woman, and a devoted and loving wife. He scarcely knew how to thank them on her behalf. He knew she would feel deeply, and thoroughly appreciate the kindness they had been pleased to show her, for there was nothing that brought greater pleasure to her heart than to have evidence such as this, that her husband was respected. On her behalf he most sincerely thanked them. He had to beg that they would excuse his few rambling remarks, and on another occasion, perhaps, he would have the opportunity of saying more, and expressing to them more fully and more perfectly how deeply and how truly he felt and appreciated the generous kindness they had been pleased to show him. (Loud cheers.)

Various other toasts were proposed during the evening, Bro. Johnson P.M. giving "The Press," which was replied to by Bro. Drummond R.W.M. At this stage of the proceedings a letter was received from Bro. Rust, Editor *Scottish Freemasons' Magazine*, regretting that previous engagements would not allow him to be present, and wishing the meeting every success. The assemblage broke up at an early hour, highly gratified with the proceedings.

Mr. Brinton, in his interesting work entitled *Symbolism; The Myths of the New World*, has the following remarks:—

"The symbol that beyond all others has fascinated the human mind, THE CROSS, finds here its source and meaning. Scholars have pointed out its sacredness in many natural religions, and have reverently accepted it as a mystery, or offered scores of conflicting, and often phrasing interpretations. *It is but another symbol of the four cardinal points, the four winds of heaven.* This will luminously appear by a study of its use and meaning in America." (p. 95.) And Mr. Brinton gives many instances of the religious use of the cross by several of the aboriginal tribes of this continent, where the allusion, it must be confessed, seems evidently to be to the four cardinal points, or the four winds, or four spirits of the earth. If this be so, and if it is probable that a similar reference was adopted by the Celtic and other ancient peoples, then we would have in the cruciform temple as much a symbolism of the world, of which the four cardinal points constitute the boundaries, as we have in the square, the cubical, and the circular.

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Printed and Published for the Freemason's Chronicle Publishing Company Limited, by Brother WILLIAM WRAY MORGAN, at 67 Barbican, E.C., Saturday, 24th April 1875.

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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. I.—No. 18. SATURDAY, 1st MAY 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

INSTALLATION OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL THE GRAND MASTER.

THE history of the Craft records no event that can compare, in the general interest it excited, with the Installation of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales as Most Worshipful Grand Master of English Masons. Of royal rulers and patrons we have had many in England, but hitherto the connection of royalty with our Order has evoked little public excitement, and certainly no enthusiasm. That there should be no lack of either on the present occasion among English Masons, who have always been distinguished for due reverence rendered to the representatives of Authority and Law, will surprise no one informed on the principles they hold, but the wide-spread interest and curiosity upon the subject of Masonry which prevailed in the metropolis on Wednesday last must have astonished as much as it was calculated to amuse a Freemason. The personal popularity of the illustrious Prince, who on that day assumed the high office of Ruler of the Craft in England, was doubtless in some measure the cause of this new-born interest in our proceedings, and it is probable that the crowds which blocked the approaches to the Albert Hall were attracted as much by the hope of obtaining a sight of "the Prince" as from any eager desire to penetrate the mysteries of Masonry. If any one was attracted by such a desire he or she was doomed to grievous disappointment. The unbroken stream of humanity which, for a couple of hours, flowed from every point of the compass in the direction of the Hall, was only individually distinguishable from the ordinary wayfarer by a swallow-tail coat and a regulation tie, the order prohibiting a public display of Masonic emblems having been faithfully obeyed. Not the least noteworthy incident indeed of this auspicious occasion was the admirable order and discipline which governed the conduct of the brethren throughout the entire proceedings. Even at the entrance doors, when there occurred a temporary and excusable delay, arising from the necessity for subjecting the credentials of every applicant for admission to the keenest scrutiny, there was neither crush nor flurry, and inside the building the perfect arrangements of the Grand Officers and their Assistants prevented anything like confusion. The admission, scrutiny and seating of eight thousand people in one building, within the space of an hour and a half, was no ordinary task, and the intelligent forethought, apparent in every detail of the arrangements, which secured its accomplishment cannot be too highly praised. This task, indeed the whole of the interior arrangements, was entrusted to Bro. Thomas Fenn, Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies, who richly deserves the thanks of the brethren for the absolute immunity from discomfort they enjoyed.

At half past two o'clock precisely the entrance doors were closed, the seats in the area of the Hall, reserved for the officers who had discharged the duties of door keepers, became rapidly filled, and in less than four minutes not a vacant seat in the vast building was discernible, save those behind the throne reserved for the Grand Officers. At this moment the sight before us is one of singular and surpassing splendour. Upwards, from the Amphitheatre, in successive tiers, divided by the gangways into perfectly symmetrical groups, and extending to the gallery near the roof are seated eight thousand representative Masons of England, clothed in all the insignia of their several degrees of rank in our Order and presenting a spectacle, the splendour of which could not have been conceived and certainly has never before been witnessed. The vast mass of colour displayed in the brilliant blue collars and the aprons worn by the brethren, relieved here and there by thin lines of crimson and purple, gold embroidery and flashing jewels, produced an effect of such striking magnificence as will long live in the memory of those who have been privileged to experience it. Fringing the daïs on which stood the Grand Master's chair, was a beautiful bank of flowers, comprising the choicest exotics, and offering a grateful relief to the eye dazzled by the blaze of colour presented in the carpet that covered the open space extending from the Throne to the Grand Entrance. Upon the latter point the general attention is now concentrated, as, to the solemn peal of the organ and loud blast of the trumpets, the head of the following procession entered the Hall:

The Grand Stewards of the Year.
Grand Pursuivant.
Past Grand Organists.
Grand Organist.
Past Grand Sword Bearers.
P. A. G. Directors of Ceremonies.
Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies.
Grand Director of Ceremonies.
P. G. Superintendents of Works.
Grand Superintendent of Works.
Past Grand Deacons.

Grand Secretary for German Correspondence. Grand Secretary.

President of the Board of General Purposes.
Past Grand Registrar.
Grand Registrar.
Grand Treasurer.
Past Grand Chaplains.
Grand Chaplains.
Past Grand Wardens.

Past Provincial Grand Masters.
Provincial Grand Master.

Illustrious Visitors.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught.

Junior Grand Warden. Senior Grand Warden. } Junior Grand Deacons.

Representative from the Grand Lodge of Denmark. Deputation from the Grand Lodge of Ireland, according to their respective ranks.

Deputation from the Grand Lodge of Sweden. Deputation from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, according to their respective ranks.

Acting Deputy Grand Master.

Grand Sword Bearer.

THE M.W. PRO GRAND MASTER. Senior Grand Deacons.

Two Grand Stewards.

As the procession advanced down the centre of the area, the cheering was loud and hearty, and was rendered again and again upon the recognition of the Duke of Connaught who, in the simple clothing of a Master Mason, occupied a chair of state upon the daïs during the remainder of the ceremony.

Grand Lodge was then duly opened by the Pro Grand Master, and a congratulatory telegram received from the Orient of Genoa was read, amid great cheering, after which the Grand Director of the Ceremonies, Sir Albert W. Woods, rapidly formed a procession of Grand Officers appointed to introduce the Grand Master elect. This procession moved down the centre of the Hall, the organ playing a march composed specially for the occasion by Bro. Sir Michael Costa, and joining the Grand Officers assembled in the corridor, in immediate attendance upon the Grand Master, returned almost immediately in the following order:—

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Four Grand Stewards of the Year.

Grand Steward.	Grand Steward.
The Gloves and Apron of the Grand Master on a Cushion borne by the Master of a Lodge.	The Collar and Jewel of the Grand Master on a Cushion borne by the Master of a Lodge.

Grand Director of Ceremonies.
Grand Secretary.
President of the Board of General Purposes.
Grand Registrar.
Grand Treasurer.
Grand Chaplains.
Six Past Grand Wardens.
Six Provincial Grand Masters.

His Royal Highness The PRINCE OF WALES, Grand Master.

Two Grand Stewards.

Upon the entrance of this procession the solemn peal of the Organ and the loud blast of the trumpets, which heralded its approach, were alike drowned in wave after wave of enthusiastic cheering and the loud clapping of applauding hands. Slowly this splendid procession, in which purple, gold, and blazing jewels shone out with a dazzling effect proceeded to the daïs, where His Royal Highness was conducted to a chair on the left of the Pro Grand Master. The ceremony of Installation was then proceeded with, and completed in ample form, and the Grand Master, having been invested with the Insignia of his High Office, was conducted to the chair of the Grand Master amid the thunderous applause of the assembled brethren. Then, to the sound of trumpets, the Grand Director of Ceremonies proclaims the new ruler of English Craftsmen in the following terms:—

Be it known that the Most High, Most Puissant and Most Illustrious Prince, Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, Duke of Saxony, Duke of Cornwall and Rothsay, Earl of Chester, Carrick, and Dublin, Baron of Renfrew and Lord of the Isles, Great Steward of Scotland, K.G., K.P., K.T., G.C.B., Knight Grand Commander of the Star of India, Knight of the Elephant of Denmark, Knight of the Golden Fleece, has been elected Most Worshipful Grand Master of Freemasonry in England. Whom the Great Architect of the Universe long preserve!

The salute which followed the proclamation cannot, of course, be particularly described, but the brethren who were unable to be present on the occasion can imagine the extraordinary effect it produced when given by simultaneous sixteen thousand hands. Those who witnessed it are not likely to forget it.

The enthusiastic cheering which succeeded the salute only subsided upon the rising of Lord Carnarvon, who, in clear and distinct tones, delivered the following address to the Most Worshipful Grand Master:—

Your Royal Highness Most Worshipful Grand Master—It has been from time immemorial the custom when any Master of the Craft was placed in this chair, to remind him of the duties that he then undertook; and though it is unnecessary that I should remind your Royal Highness, who is so conversant with all the affairs of the Craft, of the whole of those duties, that our time-honoured custom should not absolutely disappear it will be my duty to address to you a few words on this occasion. Your Royal Highness knows well that Freemasonry possesses many titles to respect, even in the eyes of the outer world. It is, first, of great antiquity—an antiquity ascending into the sphere of immemorial tradition; secondly, it is known and practised in every country, in every climate, and in every race of civilised men; and, lastly, in this country above all, it has associated itself with human sympathies and charitable institutions. (Cheers.) Let me say, further, that, whilst it has changed its character in some respects, it has lost nothing which can claim the respect of men. (Cheers.) Formerly, through the dim periods of the Middle Ages, it carved its records upon the public buildings, upon the tracery of the mediæval windows, or the ornamentation of palaces. Now it is content to devote itself to works of sympathy and charity, and in them it finds its highest praise and reward. Let me draw one further distinction—no one will say that it is an invidious one. In some other countries it has been unfortunately the lot of Freemasonry to find itself allied with faction and intrigue—with what I may call the darker side of politics. In England it has been signally the reverse. (Cheers.) The Craft here has allied itself with social order—with the great institutions of the country; and, above all, with Monarchy, the crowning institution of all. (Cheers.) Your Royal Highness is not the first by many of your illustrious family that have sat in that chair. There is no doubt by the lustre of your great name and position you will reflect honour upon the craft to-day; but it is also something to be at the head of such a body as is represented here. (Cheers.) You may truly say that never in the whole history of Freemasonry has such a Grand Lodge been assembled as that on which my eyes rest at this moment; and there is this further and inner view to be taken, that, far as my eye can carry me over these serried ranks of white and blue, of gold and purple, I recognise in them men who have solemnly undertaken obligations of worth and morality, men who have undertaken the duties of citizens and the loyalty of subjects. (Cheers.) I am but expressing, though very feebly, the feelings and aspirations of this great assemblage, when I say that I trust that the connection of your Royal Highness with the Craft may be lasting, and that you may never have reason for one moment's regret or anxiety when you look back upon the events of to-day.

The reply of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, which throughout excited the heartiest applause, was couched in the following terms:—

Brethren—I am deeply grateful to the Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master for the excessively kind words which he has just spoken, and to you, brethren, for the cordial reception which you have given to them. It has been your unanimous wish, brethren, that I should occupy the chair as your Grand Master, and you have this day installed me. It is difficult for me to find words adequate to express my deep thanks for the high honour that has been bestowed upon me—an honour which has already been bestowed on several members of my family—my predecessors and brethren; and it will always be my most ardent and sincere wish to walk in their footsteps—(Hear, hear)—and, by God's help, to fulfil the duties of the high office which I have been called to fill to-day in the same manner which those filled the office who preceded me. The Pro Grand Master has told you, brethren, and I feel convinced it is so, that such an assemblage in Grand Lodge has never been known, and when I look round me in this vast and spacious Hall, and see those who have come from the north and the south, from the east and the west, it is, I trust, an omen of good. (Hear, hear.) The various duties I have to perform in my position I am afraid will not enable me so frequently as I could wish to attend to my many duties connected with the Craft. But you, brethren, may be sure that whenever I have the time I shall do my utmost to maintain the high position in which the Craft now is, and to do my duty by it and my duty by you on every possible occasion. (Hear, hear.) It would, brethren, I feel sure, be useless for me on such an occasion to recapitulate anything which has been so ably told you by the Pro Grand Master relative to Freemasonry. Every Englishman knows that the two watchwords, I may say of the Craft are Loyalty and Charity. (Hear, hear, and applause.) Those are their watchwords, and as long as they never mix themselves up in politics, so long will, I am sure, this great and ancient Order flourish, and will maintain the integrity of the throne and of our great empire. (Hear, hear.) I thank you once more, brethren, for your cordial reception of me to-day, and I thank you for having come such immense distances to welcome me on this occasion. I assure you I shall never forget to-day. (Great applause.)

The enthusiasm of the excited assemblage was raised to the highest pitch by the fraternal and sympathetic tone of this admirable speech, and it was something of a relief when the strains of the March from *Eli*, performed upon the grand organ, by Bro. Willing, interrupted the applause.

Upon the conclusion of the march the several deputies from the Grand Lodges of Ireland, Scotland, Sweden and Denmark, were introduced to His Royal Highness, who then appointed the Grand Officers for the ensuing year, and invested them with the insignia of their several offices. The Lodge was then closed in ample form, and to the strains of Bro. Sir Michael Costa's processional march, His Royal Highness was conducted from the Hall amid the enthusiastic cheering of the brethren.

Thus happily ended the ceremony of installing His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales as Most Worshipful Grand Master of England, and the vast assemblage dispersed without a hitch or accident of any kind to blot the memory of an auspicious day.

THE BANQUET.

Freemasons' Hall was the place selected for the Banquet, and this noble building was filled to its utmost limit. The Most Worshipful Grand Master presided, supported on his right by the Duke of Connaught, and on the left by Lord Skelmersdale, the Deputy Grand Master. Lord Carnarvon, the Pro-Grand Master, was absent, for reasons which may be surmised, and in those reasons every brother will sympathize. The other guests at the cross table were Lord Leigh P.G.M. of Warwickshire; the Marquis of Hamilton, the Senior Grand Warden; Lord Methuen P.G.M. of Wilts; the Duke of Manchester P.G.M. of Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire; Lord Holmesdale P.G.M. of Kent; the Earl of Mar and Kellie, the Earl of Rosslyn, Lord Hartington, M.P.; Bro. R. W. Shakleton D.G.M. of Ireland; Lord Dunboyne J.G.W. of Ireland; Lord Rosehill J.G.W. of Scotland; the Earl of Limerick, Prov. G. M. of Bristol; Baron Beck-Frus Oscar Dickson (of Sweden); and Bro. W. Mann, G. W. of Scotland; Grand Chaplain Rev. S. R. Wigram; the Rev. J. Huyshe, P. G. M. of Devon; Bro. Albert H. Royds, P. G. M. of Devon; Bro. Hugh D. Sandeman, District G. M. of Bengal; Dr. Gray, G. C. of Scotland; Sir John M. Stewart, Ireland; Grand Chaplain the Rev. Canon Simpson, the Earl of Hardwicke, the Marquis of Londonderry, Lord Shrewsbury, Sir Henry Edwards, Sir H. Williamson, Lord Suffield, Lord Tenderden, Sir Daniel Gooch, the Hon. F. Walpole, the Hon. J. C. Vivian, the Hon. A. Fitzmaurice, Earl Ferrers, Lord H. Thynne, Sir M. Costa, the Earl of Jersey, Bro. B. Dobree, Bro. Le Gendre N. Starkie, the Rev. S. J. W. Hayes, and Dr. Sedgwick. There were also present the Grand Director of Ceremonies, Sir Albert Woods; the Past Grand Director of Ceremonies, Bro. Thomas Fenn; the Lord Mayor of London, Sir John Bennett, Colonel Burdett-Coutts, Provincial Grand Master of Middlesex, and Bro. J. C. Parkinson, Past Grand Deacon, Deputy Grand Master of Middlesex.

The dinner being concluded, a special grace was sung by the professional singers, who were under the direction of Bros. Kuhe and Ganz.

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His Royal Highness the Most Worshipful Grand Master then rose, amid prolonged cheering. He said—Brethren, the first toast I shall have the honour of proposing to you this evening is one which, I know, will require as few words as possible, as it is that toast which is always drunk with enthusiasm on all great gatherings of Englishmen, more especially at the meetings of the Craft. (Cheers.) I propose "The Health of her Majesty the Queen, the Patroness of our Order."

The toast was drunk with musical honours, Miss A. Sinclair singing the solo.

The Duke of Manchester then said: Your Royal Highness, Most Worshipful Grand Master of Freemasons, my Lords and Brethren—I now propose to ask you to drink "The Health of Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales." It is not necessary for me to praise her. You all admire her, and praise her in your ordinary conversation. (Hear, hear.) Those who have the pleasure and honour of knowing her, esteem her and praise her most of all. (Cheers.) In the words which you will soon hear sung, and with which you will sympathise—

May heavenly flowers bestrew her path!
May wisdom guide her feet!
That blessings on her head may fall,
We here our prayer repeat.

(Applause.) I have to propose to you, "The Health of the Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family." We have for the first time amongst us, as Most Worshipful Grand Master, the eldest son of her Majesty, and his brother the Duke of Connaught—whom we all most highly esteem and love as the sons of a father whose memory we all so fondly cherish, and whom we so much regret. I propose to you "The Health of her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family."

The toast was received with the greatest enthusiasm, after which Miss Edith Wynne sang "Our gentle-hearted future Queen."

His Royal Highness the Duke of CONNAUGHT then rose, and after a most cordial reception, said—Most Worshipful Grand Master and Brethren,—In the name of her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales and the other members of the Royal Family, I beg to thank you most sincerely for the very kind way in which you have received this toast. I am sure that you are all aware—in fact, the Pro-Grand Master, who I am sorry is not here to-night, told you—how great an interest the Royal Family had always taken in Freemasonry. (Cheers). I hope that those of the Royal Family who are following their ancestors, including the most worshipful Grand Master and myself, I hope that we shall prove ourselves no less worthy members of the Craft than the Duke of Sussex and the Duke of Kent. I am sure that, as the Most Worshipful Grand Master said this afternoon, the fact that the great mottoes of the Craft are "loyalty" and "charity" is alone sufficient to make the Royal family take the deepest interest in a Craft with such good mottoes as those (Cheers). Brethren, before sitting down, I may say that a great honour has been conferred upon me, and that is no less than that of proposing to you the health of our Most Worshipful Grand Master. (Prolonged applause.) I only wish, brethren, that this task had fallen to one who is more worthy to propose it. As you all know, I am the Junior Master Mason of England; and, being in a very humble position, I am naturally careful, and what is more—nervous—in speaking before you all on a toast of such great importance as this is. (Hear.) Another reason which I am sure will suggest itself to you is that I am doubly related on this occasion to our Most Worshipful Grand Master. (Cheers and laughter.) It will not do for brothers to be flattering each other, but I am sure from the way in which the mere mention of our Most Worshipful Grand Master's health was received that you all respect and admire him in his new and important office. (Applause). I can assure you, brethren, that there is no one—I will challenge every member of the Craft on this point—who has taken a deeper interest in Freemasonry than His Royal Highness the Most Worshipful Grand Master. (Loud cheers.) I am sure you will find in him one who will uphold the honour and the integrity of this most noble and most ancient Craft. (Applause.) Brethren, I propose to you "The health of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master."

The toast was drunk with great enthusiasm, the cheering being again and again renewed.

His Royal Highness the Prince of WALES replied as follows:—Brethren, I beg to return my most sincere and my most grateful thanks to the Junior Master Mason of England (laughter) for the kind way in which he has proposed my health, and to you, brethren, for the cordial manner in which you have received it. This is the first time that I have had the honour of presiding at the Grand Festival. I can assure you I am very grateful for your kind reception of me this evening, and I sincerely hope that we may have the pleasure of meeting together on these festive occasions many, many long years to come. I shall never forget, brethren, the ceremony of to-day (hear, hear), and the reception which you gave me. I only hope that you may never regret the choice you have made of your Grand Master. Brethren, I assure you on all occasions I shall do my utmost to do my duty in the position in which you have so kindly placed me. (Hear, hear.) Before sitting down, I have a toast to propose, which I feel sure you will all drink with cordiality, and which to me is a specially gratifying toast—that is, the health of our illustrious Brother the King of Sweden and Norway. (Applause.) It affords me especial pleasure to propose this toast, as seven years ago I became a member of this Craft, initiated by the late King, the brother of the present one. Thereby I consider I have a more special interest in Sweden; and I hope that the Grand Lodges of Sweden and of England may always be bound together in goodwill and fraternal feeling. Our illustrious brother the King has been especially pleased to send over five distinguished brethren to take part in my installation. (Applause.) Therefore it affords me special gratification to drink to the health of one who I know is such a keen Freemason at heart, and so keen an Englishman that he has frequently visited our shores. Most cordially and heartily do I call upon you, brethren, to drink to "The health of our illustrious brother the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Sweden, His Majesty the King of Sweden and Norway."

Count Salcza responded, and he expressed his great gratification at the magnificent ceremony that had been witnessed in the afternoon, laying special stress upon the Masonic good feelings between Sweden and Great Britain. He spoke of himself as feeling that he stood among friends and brothers, and he thanked them for their cordial reception. Our worthy brother, who spoke in French, passed a high eulogium on Freemasonry.

His Royal Highness the GRAND MASTER then said,—Brethren, we are honoured here this evening by the representatives of the Grand Lodges of Scotland, of Ireland, and of Sweden, and I feel convinced that you will all drink with me most cordially and most heartily to their health. (Cheers.) The Grand Lodge of England is always most desirious of being on the best possible terms with the Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland. Although separate through having other Grand Masters, still those three Grand Lodges may consider one another more or less as one. I have great pleasure in proposing the health of my noble friend and brother, Lord Rosslyn, as representative of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and I cannot forget the kind reception I met with at Edinburgh some years ago when he was Deputy Grand Master, and I received the rank of Patron of Scotch Freemasons at the hands of the late Earl Dalhousie. It also gives me great pleasure to propose the health of the representative of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, coupled with the name of Bro. Shekleton, Deputy Grand Master. I have also the great privilege of being Patron of the Irish Grand Lodge, which honour I also remember, a few years ago, receiving from the late Duke of Leinster, who was the popular Grand Master of Ireland at that time, and the reception I met with I shall not easily forget. As the representative of the Grand Lodge of Sweden it affords me great pleasure to couple with this toast the name of the Admiral on my left. As my earliest associations in Freemasonry have been with the Grand Lodge of Sweden, I know when I address those gentlemen I see before me they will appreciate the pleasure it affords me in proposing this toast. (Cheers.) Brethren, I give you the toast of "The Grand Lodges of Scotland, Ireland, and Sweden, coupled with the names of Lord Rosslyn, Brother Shekleton, and Admiral Oscar Dixon." I also include in this toast all the other Grand Lodges.

The toast having been drunk,

Lord Rosslyn said,—Most Worshipful Grand Master and Brethren, the honour that your Royal Highness has done the deputation of the Grand Lodge of Scotland is warmly felt and appreciated by them, and I regret exceedingly that our Right Worshipful Master is upon this most interesting occasion prevented from being present by severe domestic sorrow. One other also of our deputation, one for whom all members of the Grand Lodge of Scotland have a great regard, our Grand Secretary, is prevented from being present on this occasion by a very severe and dangerous illness. But I am glad, indeed, to have the opportunity after so many years' connection with the Grand Lodge of Scotland—no less than 25 years—of congratulating the Craft of England and your Royal Highness also, upon the most magnificent scene I have ever witnessed in my life. I am glad also to think that the splendour, and, I must add, admirable management of the display to-day, does not quite efface from your Royal Highness's recollection the scene upon a similar scale which we endeavoured to offer you when we had the honour of having your name as Patron of the Scottish Craft. Your Royal Highness has been good enough to say that you have not forgotten the occasion. I can assure your Royal Highness no Scotchman will ever forget it, and I can speak on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, with which I have been so long connected, having served every office in it, from Junior Deacon up to Grand Master, having been not quite a holiday Freemason, but worked my way from the ranks up to the position I have the honour to hold now. His Royal Highness has this day told us what the duties of Freemasonry are, and there is no doubt he has summed them up in two words—Loyalty and Charity—which includes mercy, a quality that has been described by the greatest of poets as becoming "the throned Monarch better than his crown." There can be no doubt that under the auspices of the Most Worshipful Grand Master the Grand Lodge of England will flourish, and will continue to be a standard for Masonry all over the world. (Hear, hear.) I beg to thank you on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and I should have felt entirely happy in all the arrangements that you have given me the opportunity of addressing you this evening if I had not found that the Brother about to follow me is in a much better position than myself; for, while we are placed, according to the book of songs before me, "By the Sad Sea Waves," he has the pleasure of being "By Celia's Arbour." (Laughter and cheers.)

In reply, Brother R. W. Shekleton, Deputy-Grand Master of Ireland, said,—Your Royal Highnesses, my Lords and Brethren,—I have been deputed by his Grace the Grand Master of Ireland to express to you his great personal regret that his official duties as a Viceroy of Her Most Gracious Majesty, debar him from being present here in person, to do all honour to your Royal Highness, and in his behalf to bid you all hail, in the name of the Fraternity of the sister kingdom. Your Royal Highness, and brethren in England, on behalf of his Grace, I desire to tender to you his most grateful acknowledgements for the way in which his name has been received, and the invitation which was extended to him to take part in the imposing and august ceremonial of to-day. But, your Royal Highness, there is another matter of which, as far as I am aware, his Grace was not cognizant until to-day, and that is the honour you have conferred upon him by installing his son in the Grand Senior Warden's Chair. (Applause.) As his Grace takes great interest in Freemasonry, the honour which you have conferred upon his son is one of the greatest honours you could confer on him personally. On behalf of those who represent the Grand Lodge of Ireland I should be wanting in my duty if I did not take this occasion of thanking you for this opportunity of taking part in the ceremony of to-day—an event which will be an era in our Masonic lives. We thank you also for having been invited to take

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part in this festive ceremony, which, as most of the outside world will suppose, was most indispensable to us, whom they regard as a gormandizing fraternity. (Laughter.) In an assemblage of English Masons it may seem absurd to talk about loyalty, but I can assure your Royal Highness that no Masons are more loyal than the Masons of the Emerald Isle (immense cheering): which God grant may never cease to be an integral portion of Her Majesty's dominions; and we pray that the Emerald Isle may never be woven in the crown of any stranger. In our Lodges we have no treason, no plot to conspiracies; we form no such secret societies; but we are remarkable for our fear of God, our fealty to the Sovereign, love to the brotherhood and a friendship to all classes and creeds. Those are the principles which are inculcated in Irish Lodges as well as English, and therefore it is absurd to speak of us in the way we have been spoken of. Your Royal Highness has been threatened with certain pains and penalties if you visit our shores. I can assure your Royal Highness, as far as that is concerned, we are only too happy to see your Royal Highness on any occasion, and I think there will be no necessity to put the prerogative of mercy into operation if you visit us. I have said that we are loyal, and I say it on behalf of my impulsive countrymen, that they are loyal to the heart's core; and that although we have not had the honour of seeing the members of the Royal family as often as we would like, yet I know it is only necessary that they should be as familiar to us in Ireland as in England to be equally beloved as in England and in Scotland. (Loud cheers.)

Brother Admiral Oscar Dickson (who spoke in a clear English accent) said—Speaking in the capital of England, may it please your Royal Highness, Most Worshipful Grand Master, to receive the humble thanks of the Swedish Grand Lodge for the honour which you have conferred upon them. (Applause.)

The Most Worshipful Grand Master: It is now my duty to propose to you the last toast which I shall have the honour of giving you. It is one which is always at this, our annual meeting, received most cordially and enthusiastically. On this occasion the toast will be that of "The Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, the Provincial Grand Masters, and the Grand Officers." (Cheers.) I regret very much the absence, from domestic affliction, of the Pro Grand Master. (Hear, hear.) He is not able to be in his accustomed place to respond to this toast, but the Deputy Grand Master is here this evening, and I shall have great pleasure in coupling his name with it. (Cheers.) To the Provincial Grand Masters whom I see before me and around me this evening I beg to tender my sincere thanks for their kindness in supporting me both this afternoon and now, and to assure them what gratification and pleasure it has given me to see them muster so strongly at our ceremony of to-day. (Cheers.) I know that upon some of the Grand Officers devolved the duty of making the arrangements for carrying out that ceremony, and I can only tender them my sincere thanks and at the same time congratulate them upon the admirable manner in which those arrangements were carried out. (Applause.) This evening, during the dinner, I received a communication, dated at 7 35, from Bro. Wentworth Cole, who was present to-day, in which he says that "after dismissing the police and shutting the doors, the report was that no casuality or mishap of any kind had taken place." (Loud cheers.) There were between 7,000 and 8,000 brethren at that Hall, and they all entered and left it without accident, which is a great thing to be able to say. (Cheers.) I beg of you now to drink the health of those brethren whose names I have just mentioned. (Loud applause.)

Lord Skelmersdale.—Most Worshipful Grand Master and Brethren,—In the name of the numerous assembly on behalf of whom I have to respond, I beg to return you our hearty thanks. No one can regret more than I do the absence of the Pro Grand Master, but I think you will agree with me in saying that we all owe him a deep debt of gratitude for having laid aside his sorrow and come forward to take part in the ceremony of this afternoon. (Hear, hear.) I need not dilate on the admirable way in which he performed his duty. (Cheers.) He always does everything he undertakes in the same way, and I repeat that we owe him a deep debt of gratitude for what he has done for us to-day. (Cheers.) I only hope that he has happier days before him, and that he will long enjoy the honours which have been conferred upon him. (Applause.) I am sure you will feel it is almost presumptuous in me to say anything on behalf of the Provincial Grand Officers, being such a junior officer myself; but perhaps I may do so having the honour of holding the rank of Grand Master in one of the largest provinces in the country. (Hear, hear.) I am sure all the Provincial Grand Officers will, equally with myself, feel delighted, honoured, and gratified at seeing his Royal Highness placed in the position he now occupies—(cheers)—and only wish that he may occupy it for many years to come. (Applause.) I assure him that we will do all we can to lighten his duties and to make his task an easy one. (Hear, hear.) For my own part I can assure you that I feel deeply sensible of the honour which has been conferred upon me this day. I only hope that I shall be able to do the duty of the high office confided to me, and I trust to be able to do it with all my heart. (Hear, hear.) If anything would add to my anxiety to do so, it would be the invariable kindness I have personally received from his Royal Highness, and the invariable kindness and attention which he has given to Masonic matters. (Applause.) I can assure you that that attention has not been lightly taxed lately. (Hear, hear.) Brethren, in the name of the Grand Officers and those enumerated in the toast which has been so kindly proposed, I beg to thank you most heartily for the kind way in which you have received this toast, and to assure you that we hope to do our duties to the best of our abilities. (Loud cheers.)

The Marquis of Hamilton (Senior Grand Warden)—Your Royal Highness, my Lords, and Brethren,—The toast which I have now to propose to you is that of "The Stewards of this Festival," and in proposing this toast I must claim your indulgence, as this is the first time that I have had the honour of addressing you as an officer of Grand Lodge. (Hear, hear.) Although this toast is put down in the book as the last, I do not think it should be considered the least, and for two reasons. One is, that the brethren whose names are connected with this toast come from no less than 18 Lodges in the United Kingdom, and among them are members of the highest and most important degrees connected with Freemasonry. (Hear, hear.) Another reason is that the brethren with whose names I couple this toast have had their attention this evening closely and carefully connected with our material, and, I might say, also our interior welfare and happiness. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) Brethren, you witnessed this morning a magnificent spectacle in the Albert Hall—a spectacle which can never be surpassed in the annals of Freemasonry in this country. (Hear, hear, and applause.) Every particle, every minutiæ of detail was most exactly and splendidly carried out. (Applause.) Those brethren who had the duty of carrying out that magnificent ceremony have had their names duly proposed and honoured this evening, and the festival which we celebrate to-night is only a sequel to the ceremony which you witnessed this morning, and I venture to think that the success of the festival this evening is in no way inferior to that of the ceremony which preceded it. (Cheers.) The admirable manner in which this festival has been arranged and carried out has, I am convinced, given satisfaction to all present, and that successful result is due to the care and attention of the Stewards. (Cheers.) It is, therefore, with great pleasure that I propose to you "The Health of the Stewards," and I am certain that you will all honour it upstanding with three cheers. In giving you this toast I beg to couple with it the name of Bro. Erasmus Wilson. (Applause.)

Bro. Erasmus Wilson, President of the Board of Stewards, in responding, said,—Most Worshipful Grand Master, your Royal Highness, and Brethren,—The Grand Stewards of the year are deeply grateful to you for your generous recognition of our very humble but most cordially rendered services. (Hear, hear.) The Grand Stewards constitute a useful and somewhat curious link in the venerable and patriarchal chain of our Masonic organisation; and prominent among their functions is the very important one of engaging their brethren in the happiest and most necessary of the ceremonies consequent on our sublunary existence. (Laughter.) It is for the Grand Stewards in an essential degree to endeavour to please the brethren, and, in the beautiful words of our ritual, "to lead them to unite in the grand design of being happy and communicating happiness." (Cheers.) It is likewise for the Grand Stewards to realise in the interests of the brethren that after labour should follow refreshment—(hear, hear),—and although the labour of this great day has been in a supreme degree a labour of love, yet our convictions must have proved to us that love is none the less active promoter of appetite. (Cheers and laughter.) I therefore trust that the poor efforts of the Grand Stewards to relieve that necessity of our nature, aided by the practical help of our good brother Francatelli, may not have proved labour in vain. (Cheers.) But as within our bosom our heart is next door neighbour to the stomach, so may the comfort and refreshments of the stomach further warm our hearts to a fervent congratulation on the events of this most auspicious and never-to-be-forgotten day. (Applause.) The only alloy of the Grand Stewards is that they should have been obliged, in consequence of the vastness of Free and Accepted Masonry, to have prevented so many worthy brethren from the enjoyment of this most gratifying and delightful evening. (Hear, hear.) Most Worshipful Grand Master, condescend to receive from me our humble thanks as well as our Loyal and most hearty good wishes. (Loud applause.)

After dinner the company retired to the Temple, where a splendid concert was given, under the direction of Bro. Wilhelm Kuhe, assisted by Miss Edith Wynne, Miss Annie Sinclair, Madame Patey, Bros. George Perren, Thomas Baxter, Carter, T. Distin, and F. Penna; His Royal Highness stopping for some time. The dinner was excellently served, and reflected the highest credit on the management.

THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

THE report just issued, for the year ended 31st December, is eminently satisfactory. It proves, if any proof were needed, the value of the School as a charitable institution. It does credit to its promoters and the Craft generally—excepting those, of course, who, being able, are yet unwilling to contribute to its support, and are, consequently, a disgrace to our Order. It explains the system of education pursued, and mentions the excellent results that have followed such system. Lastly, it most convincingly proves the excellence of the financial arrangements.

Having so recently brought under the notice of our readers all the salient points in the history of our Girls' School, we need say nothing further on them here. We shall deal then only with the most important features in the report. At the commencement of the introductory address, we are told, "Since its establishment, one thousand and thirty-nine girls have been educated, clothed, and maintained within its walls, most of whom, at the expiration of their term of residence, have returned to their parents or friends; those who had no home have been provided with suitable situations, in which they have invariably so conducted themselves as to deserve and receive the commendation of their employers." As to the school buildings, the recent erection in the grounds of an INFIRMARY, "in-

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cluding *Convalescent Room, Laundry, and every necessary appliance thereto*, and *detached from the main building*," has enabled the Board of Management to extend the accommodation so as to admit of 148 children being maintained annually. This, of course, has entailed increased expenditure, but the Board exhibit a just confidence in the Craft, and entertain no misgivings whatever as to obtaining the needful support. As to the education given, the object has been to adopt a solid system of training. No attempt has been made to develope the faculties of a few sharp and quick girls, to the detriment of the majority who are slower and less showy. But the teaching is excellent, so that many girls, on leaving, have been at once enabled to take the position of governesses, while in the case of those who were entered as candidates at the CAMBRIDGE LOCAL EXAMINATION, it is stated that "*in nearly every instance honours with prizes, or certificates of having passed with credit, have been obtained.*" Ten have been entered for the latest of these examinations, and every confidence is felt in the result being equally favourable. Need we repeat that all this reflects the highest honour, both on those members of the Craft who support the School, and who, by their, we are happy to say, ever increasingly greater patronage, enable it to constantly extend its sphere of usefulness; or that to the matron and governess, with their subordinates, is due great credit for the excellence of their system, both of instruction and discipline, and the energy with which it is carried out?

From that portion of the Report which is devoted to the education and maintenance of the inmates, we gather that the dietary is on a most substantial scale, that the needlework done by the girls during the year 1874 was very considerable, including blue stuff frocks, pinafores, night dresses, &c., while the most important prize winners, who received their honours at the last visit of the Stewards on the 11th May 1874, were Maria Louisa Flintoft, who carried off the gold medal for general proficiency, given annually by Bro. William Paas, with £5 given by Bro. Winn, besides prizes for French (by Bro. Dr. Brette), elocution (by Mrs. Crick), drawing (by Bro. J. Standing), and passing Cambridge examination. Kate Isabella Barrett took the silver medal for good conduct, with £5 given by Bro. W. Winn, and a prize for "general usefulness," Elizabeth J. Baxter, Cara B. Fletcher, and Leila Lucy Caparn, divided the prize of £5 5s, given by Bro. W. Winn, and obtained likewise each a prize for passing the Cambridge Examination. Elizabeth J. Baxter also took prizes for drawing and model drawing; Cara B. Fletcher gained Mr. Henry F. Bowker's prize for good conduct and a prize for model drawing. Among the other prize winners we noticed the name of Mary Alice Eastham, to whom was awarded a silver watch, the gift of Bro. H. W. Hemsworth, for amiability; the award being the result of a vote taken among her school-fellows. Mary N. Fradelle Pratt carried off Bro. Collard Murtrie's prize for music, and Clara M. Wicks Bro. John M. Clabon's prize for good conduct.

The financial statement of the Governing Body we have properly kept till the last. From this it appears that the receipts from all sources, including a balance brought forward from last year of £2,739 14s 4d amounted to £11,559 9s 4d, there being, at the end of the year, a considerable sum outstanding upon Stewards' lists, some of which has since been received. The donations and subscriptions reached the handsome sum of £7,734 19s 1d, of which Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter contributed £150, and ten guineas respectively. £947 0s 8d was received in respect of interest on invested moneys, viz., on £16,500 3 per cent. Consols, and £16,500 3 per Cent. Reduced. Of the latter amount £2,500 was purchased in the course of the year, and yielded a dividend for one half-year only. The rest, being casual receipts, include a contribution from Bro. W. Winn of one hundred guineas. As regards the *per contra* side of the account, the expenditure of all kinds connected with education, clothing, and maintenance of the girls reached £6,578 4s 4d. To this must be added £2,296 2s 6d, laid out in the purchase of £2,500 3 per cent. Reduced Stock. Thus there remained a balance on 31st December 1874 of £2,683 2s 6d, against which must be reckoned Christmas accounts unpaid to the extent of £1,314 11s 2d, leaving only an available balance for the current year of £1,368 11s 4d. The principal items are £188 17s 3d for new building and improvements; painting £929 10s; laying out the grounds £263 18s; various expenditures, including prizes, gratuities, pension to late secretary, &c., £886 7s, and for ordinary expenses £4,772 6s 8d. This last amount is composed of the outlay on provisions, clothing, furniture, medical attendance, &c., with only £500 for office salaries and wages, and £565 6s 3d for ditto at the school. Stationery, advertisements, postage, &c., cost in round figures £213, the elections £71, while the secretarial disbursements reached the very modest sum of £14, poundage to the collector being just over £180. We gather from these figures, that while the annual income of the Institution from invested property is within £1,000, the annual expenditure is in excess of £6,500, thus leaving an annual sum of £5,500, for which the School is indebted to the voluntary contributions of the Craft. We may add that there is a Sustentation, Improving and Building Fund, amounting, as regards receipts, to £926, including a balance of over £893, the expenditure being £700 on account of improvements.

We may appropriately repeat here the announcement we made last week, that the eighty-seventh Anniversary Festival will be held at Freemasons' Tavern on Tuesday, the 11th instant, and that our respected Brother the Lord Mayor of London will preside on the occasion. We express the hope that the lists handed in by the Stewards will prove far in advance of last year's contributions; that, in fact, the aggregate of these lists may be greater every year, so that the ability of the Institution to confer aid on the indigent orphan, or daughters of indigent parents, may be proportionately increased. We are sure our readers will echo this wish again and again.

THE PRESS AND THE INSTALLATION.

WE quote on another page the opinions of some of our morning contemporaries in reference to the grand and imposing ceremonial of Wednesday last. Our readers will see that these opinions are genial in their tone, if they are not wholly favourable to the pretensions of the great Order which now boasts of a Grand Master who, in all human probability, will one day occupy the throne of the greatest Empire in the World. The *Times*, for example, is unusually "genial" in its remarks, and if Freemasons were thin skinned, they might feel a little annoyed at the comparison which the leading journal institutes between the members of the Fraternity and children. Freemasons however are never annoyed at a little "chaff," and for our own part we are so fully conscious that the *Times* in its own grand way is systematically hostile to the Order that we do not much regard its jests at our expense. It has always assumed a very dignified attitude with reference to Masonry, and hitherto, when it has condescended to report the proceedings of Grand Lodge, it has endeavoured to make us feel the obligation. The ceremonial of Wednesday last was of such vast public importance that even the *Times* could not afford to ignore it, and as it felt compelled to devote a leader to the subject it doubtless thought that grave criticism of anything so frivolous as Masonry would ill become the Deity of Printing House Square. Perhaps we are all in the wrong, and the *Times* is just in its strictures. But if we are silly persons, we at all events err in good company, and we are under the impression that when a solitary individual recklessly dubs a multitude of gentlemen "fools," the folly rests on the side of the minority. Either the *Times* knows nothing of the Craft, or it is fully informed, and knows all about the mysteries of which it makes light. If it is ignorant, it has no business to attempt the task of criticism, and if it be well-informed it, or rather the writer of the article, must be a most disloyal Mason. We do not forget that the *Times* has often attempted to ignore the Order. Recently it entirely ignored the Anniversary Meeting of the Masonic Benevolent Institution, although nearly £7,000 was subscribed on the occasion. Under similar circumstances it could not have avoided reporting a May Meeting, however much it might have felt inclined to be hostile to the principles enunciated by its conductors. We venture to think that an Institution which can command subscriptions to the amount of £7,000 is too important to be ignored by the leading journal on the childish plea that the subscribers wore aprons, and indulged in mystic ceremonial.

Reverting to the Installation of his Royal Highness the Grand Master, which is fully dealt with in another column, we are gratified to notice that Lord Mayor Stone, on his appointment as Junior Warden, was received with the greatest enthusiasm. It was felt that, in selecting the

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chief magistrate for this important office, the Grand Master was paying a well deserved compliment, not only to the noble Corporation of which the Lord Mayor is the head, but to the merchant princes of the greatest city in the world. The chief magistrate of the city is a thoroughly representative man, and the high honour accorded to him will be appreciated by the vast body of Masons who hail from the commercial centre of the metropolis. Sir Michael Costa and Sir Albert Woods were distinguished by honorary rank, and this too was a graceful act, which will no doubt be highly appreciated. In spite of the scoffs of the *Times*, eminent persons in all the walks of life are anxious to deck themselves with the highest insignia of the Craft, and the fact that such honours as Masonry can confer are eagerly sought for by men of acknowledged repute in the world should at least convince our cynical critic that there must be something after all of substantial value in the Fraternity. It is pleasing to find that our contemporary the *Standard* has latterly made Masonic intelligence a feature in its columns. Its article on the Installation Ceremony is exceedingly able, and most friendly in its tone, and stands out in striking contrast to the "geniality" of the leading journal. We appreciate its learned comments, and the Masonic world will be glad to find that so powerful a paper takes a just and impartial view of the aims and objects of the Order.

From the TIMES, *29th April.*

The Installation of the Prince of Wales as Grand Master of the Freemasons was an impressive, and, in some respects, an instructive ceremonial. Theoretically, no one knows who Freemasons are or what are their ceremonies and principles; but in practice we all know that they are very fair representatives of Englishmen in general, and that their only peculiarity is to discharge certain praiseworthy duties of humanity in a more picturesque and expensive manner than is thought necessary by other people. We would not for a moment disparage the value of the "Craft." There is a singular passion in human nature for anything in the form of order, association, and discipline. Nothing of this sort can be too much for him, and in his enjoyment of the society of his fellows and of their common ceremonial he is quite unconscious of the appearance he may present to the eyes of critical outsiders. Grown-up men, however grave, are still as happy as children in enacting some imaginary play, and in one form or another they insist on having it. Even Bishops find it necessary occasionally to revert to these innocent instincts of infancy, and the Pan-Anglican Synod, which has just been announced for 1877, may be considered as a kind of ecclesiastical Grand Lodge. The Freemasons, however, are by far the most successful in gratifying this innate passion, for it is difficult to say whether, in this country at least, the picturesqueness or the innocence of the Fraternity predominates. These are the two qualities to be mainly desired in any gratification of the natural impulse of which we are speaking, and they were exhibited in perfection in the ceremonial we report this morning. To the uninitiated, indeed, there is something amusing in the extraordinary number of "Grand" Officers and Officers who seem to have been concerned in the affair. Few people, probably, were aware that there were so many magnificent dignities scattered obscurely about the country. The Prince of Wales is a great personage, but even his dignity seems scarcely equal to the demands of such a mass of attendant grandeur. But, no doubt, such titles have their significance within the Brotherhood, and no exception whatever can be taken to the aprons, collars, and other bits of finery with which the imaginary hierarchy displays its magnificence. Blue and crimson ribands worn in due order by concentric circles of human beings, even when they are men and not women, have a pretty effect, and the Freemasons appear to carry the art of disciplined ceremonial to great perfection. Whatever can be done by ornamented male nature in the way of processions and salutes was no doubt accomplished yesterday with even greater success than by Roman Catholics or Ritualists. Ten thousand Englishmen wore their Masonic clothing and performed their Masonic mysteries with unprecedented effect. It was a perfectly innocent enjoyment, and it is pleasant to see that so many men can thus find genuine enjoyment in becoming very young again.

But all this display seems to be the dress in which some of the best impulses of good-fellowship and charity are clothed, and, as the new Grand Master yesterday said, so long as the "great and ancient Order" confine themselves to those objects they will flourish. "Loyalty and Charity" are their watchwords, and so long as these characteristics are maintained they will be a useful as well as an agreeable Brotherhood. The significance of the Prince's reception yesterday must be measured, not by what might appear its intrinsic importance, but by the circumstances which it illustrates and interprets. It is always welcome, even though needless, to elicit a display of the cordial and genial character of English loyalty, and of the heartiness with which the generous disposition of the Prince of Wales is appreciated by the mass of his future subjects. His welcome yesterday was evidently animated by a strong feeling of personal regard, and if anything were needed to confirm this sentiment it would be the graciousness with which he intimated his acknowledgment of it. The Freemasons must excuse our passing amusement at their odd ceremonies; but such an association fosters, no doubt, that spirit of independent thought and action which sustains the free judgment of individuals, and even the Heir Apparent may be reasonably satisfied when he is welcomed with far more than official applause among the chosen representatives of the largest association of English gentlemen. But, as Lord Carnarvon intimated in his address to the new Grand Master, his reception at this moment is a still more special significance. The "Craft" appear not unreasonably sensible of the reflection which, however unwillingly, was thrown upon them by the retirement of the Grand Master whom the Prince of Wales succeeds. Lord Ripon had received no ordinary honour in being elected to a post which the Prince of Wales is willing to occupy, and on a sudden, at the dictate of another and a hostile society, he threw up his office. The Craft appear to be perfectly tolerant of variations of creed in their members; but Lord Ripon's resignation reminded them in the most pointed manner that they are treated by the Roman Catholic churches as an irreligious, seditious, and even anti-Christian organisation. The other day the Grand Orient Lodge of Italy, from which a message of congratulation was yesterday read, opened a Masonic "Temple" in Rome. It was a great event in the annals of the Brotherhood, and was proportionately horrifying to the ecclesiastical authorities who had hitherto excluded Freemasons with far more jealousy than brigands and Red Republicans. There have, perhaps, been some excuses in foreign countries for this extravagant jealousy of anything which seemed like a secret society; but Lord Ripon informed the "Craft" that the same unreasoning and liberal jealousy was maintained even in England. The reception of yesterday was in great measure a national demonstration against this unjustifiable prejudice. The Prince of Wales in accepting the office of Grand Master has proclaimed to all the world that Freemasonry, at least in England, is a perfectly innocuous, loyal, and virtuous association; and the "Craft," in welcoming him, have similarly proclaimed their possession of these qualities.

It is strange that the lesson of such demonstrations should be so obstinately overlooked, not merely by the Roman Catholic Church, but even by some foreign Governments and Legislatures. Of all the enterprises on which legislative and administrative time can be wasted, the most useless, except in exceptional emergencies, is that of attacking secret associations. The only way to counterbalance them is to open to men in the ordinary institutions of the country the means of obtaining all the political objects they can reasonably desire, and all minor associations will then become, like the Freemasons in England, mere organisations for the cultivation of mutual good-feeling and charity. It is quite possible that under the repression of past tyranny Freemasonry was really used on the Continent as a means of revolutionary agitation. Men were in want of some organised means of mutual action, and the first secret society at hand was employed for their purposes. In this country there has been no occasion for any such agency, and the result is seen in the ceremony of yesterday. The society against which the Pope fulminates all the terrors of this world and the next for its supposed hostility to everything loyal and sacred, meets in innocuous splendour in a great Music Hall, welcomes with enthusiasm the Heir to the Throne, and makes solemn protestation of its loyal, religious, and charitable principles. Does not such an example say more for tolerance than for excommunication?

From the STANDARD, *29th April.*

Yesterday was a day to be marked with white in the annals of Freemasonry. In the midst of an assemblage of brethren perhaps the largest and the most imposing since the initial ceremony itself from which the Society is accustomed to date—the building of the Temple at Jerusalem by King Solomon—surrounded by all who are of the highest rank in the brotherhood, and including many statesmen, nobles, and men illustrious by birth, station, or talents, the Heir of England was installed in the high place of Grand Master of the English Freemasons. The proceedings having been duly 'tiled,' it is not for us to attempt to penetrate into the mysteries enacted under the lofty dome of the Albert Hall. We may be sure, however, that nothing was wanting which could lend solemnity and splendour to the occasion. Seven thousand Freemasons, all of the highest degrees, the choicest experts of the Craft, the hierarchy of the Order, were gathered from all parts of England and Wales to do honour to the Grand Master, and take part in the rites. Besides these were present delegates from the Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland, from Germany, from France, from Sweden, from Denmark, from every country in Europe where Masonry is represented; it may be even from that Sicilian Lodge of which Brother Mastai Ferretti was once a member. Vast as the Albert Hall is, however, it was not nearly large enough to accommodate the thousands more who, from no idle spirit of curiosity, but from zeal for the Craft, or a desire to acknowledge the honour which it has received through the Prince of Wales's acceptance of the Grand Mastership, desired to be present on the auspicious occasion. These, and all good Masons, must be content to know that the solemn function of the Installation has been performed with all the "pride, pomp, and circumstance" which were appropriate to the ceremony, and to the chief actor in it, and will rejoice at the recognition which their institution has received at the hands of Royalty. It is, not, indeed, the first time that a Prince of the Blood has so honoured the fraternity. A long succession of our English Kings were Freemasons. A Prince of Wales was installed Grand Master in 1792, and most of the Royal Dukes, his uncles and brothers, were among the initiated. The late Duke of Sussex filled for many years the high office which the Prince of Wales yesterday assumed. In other countries where Freemasonry has flourished the princes of the reigning houses have in all ages been reckoned of the fraternity, and among those still living are the Emperor of Germany, the King of Italy, the King of Belgium, and the King of Sweden.

Although the ceremony of yesterday was strictly private, and in no degree partook of any political significance, the unusual degree of *éclat* which it has necessarily received from the rank of those engaged in it, cannot but attract towards it a good deal of public

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interest. In this interest Freemasonry itself, as an institution, will naturally be included. What is this society which alone among secret societies has flourished in all countries and among all conditions of men, preserving its secret, and though repeatedly persecuted, ridiculed and fulminated against, continuing to maintain its existence not only without any diminution of *prestige*, but apparently in greater vigour than ever, in spite of sarcasms, scandals, and anathemas? There must be some mysterious principle of vitality in an Order which, perpetually assailed, and never caring to defend itself, is yet unshaken in its foundations. Even the uninitiated must be awed into something like respect for an institution which apparently defies all the corruptions of time, and is proof against the inroads of the sceptical and levelling spirit of the age. The most lenient of its critics pronounce it to be an anachronism, and yet we have it rearing its head in the Albert Hall, and Royalty claiming to have a share in its direction. To-day it is the most fashionable of Orders, as it was in the days of the widow's son Hiram of Tyre, chief builder of the Temple. If we may accept the traditions of the society itself, and no traditions are more uniform, more coherent, or more binding upon those who receive them, Freemasonry dates from the era of the first builder upon earth, even if it does not go back further than that, to the great author of the human race himself. Just as surely as that Adam was "the first gentleman who wore coat-armour," according to Sylvanus Morgan, in his Book of Heraldry, is it testified that he was the first Mason. By the sons of Lamech the secrets were engraved on stone pillars, so that they might outlast the Flood. From them the Craft was duly transmitted through Abraham to Solomon, who is supposed to have been the first who associated "speculative" with "operative" Masonry. However this may be, and every one is free, in an unbelieving age, to doubt the fact, what is certain is that the Masonic signs and emblems are to be found in the stones among the ruins of Baalbec, that they have been traced in the buildings of the pre-Brahminical period in India, and among the Druidical remains in England and Brittany. An ancient and universal tradition among English Freemasons preserves the belief in a continuity of the association down to the times of the Saxon kings. The existence of a charter from King Athelstane empowering his brother Prince Edwy to hold a Lodge in the crypt of the old Cathedral at York is one of the landmarks of Masonic history, and though the charter itself, we believe, has never been discovered, the ancient York Lodge holds stubbornly to the belief as a prime article of faith. It is in the thirteenth century, however, that we first find any historical evidence of the existence and practice of Freemasonry as a secret society, with watchwords, signs, and emblems taken from the building art. Documentary proofs of the guild of fraternity at Strasburg are still in existence. In the next century we have distinct and undoubted evidence of the Order in England in the laws and charters of the Edwards. In 1432, Lodges of Freemasonry were forbidden to be held by Act of Parliament, and for a long time afterwards Freemasonry, discouraged and persecuted by Kings and Parliaments, languished and led a precarious existence. It was not until the year 1717, when the Grand Lodge of England was founded on its present constitution, at the tavern known as the Goose and Gridiron, that Freemasonry was fairly revived in the shape which we know; and since then it has continued to grow and to prosper, till now there are some 1,500 Lodges in affiliation with the Grand Lodge of England, besides those in Scotland and in Ireland, their being, according to the latest calculation, more than 300,000 British Masons at present numbered of the Order.

From the DAILY NEWS, *29th April.*

Yesterday afternoon, in the midst of the most splendid gathering of the Brotherhood that has ever been witnessed, the Prince of Wales assumed nominally the duties and responsibilities of the Grand Mastership of English Freemasons. It is, in his case, an office whose functions he will seldom personally perform, and the acting chiefs of the institution will be Lord Carnarvon and Lord Skelmersdale. Nevertheless the presidency of the Prince of Wales is a fact in which Freemasons may justly feel satisfaction, if only as a continuation of the traditional connection with the Royal House which is characteristic of Freemasonry in England, as it has always been in Prussia and Sweden. It was in the year 1782 that this connection first began, when the Duke of Cumberland, of Culloden memory, was nominated Grand Master. In 1790 a great festival was held, over which he presided, accompanied by his grand nephews the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Clarence, newly made Masons, and surrounded by five hundred brethren. Two years later the Prince was himself installed Grand Master, which office he held till his accession to the Regency, when the Duke of Sussex succeeded him. The Duke was an enthusiast in Freemasonry; he studied its antiquities, and was profound in its ritual; he discovered great secrets and hidden mysteries unsuspected by other brethren; and, in moments of enthusiasm would declare that there were but three men in the world who knew what Masonry meant. He was one; but history has not preserved the names of the other two. It is to be hoped that they have handed down this sacred flame of wisdom, which should not be extinguished, even if it be destined to lie for ever hidden beneath a bushel. In all these installations, there were great gatherings and splendid ceremonials, but there has never been so grand an assemblage as that which yesterday crowded the Albert Hall with eight thousand members. The spectacle of a vast assembly is not a novel one to the newly-elected Grand Master; but, as Lord Carnarvon pointed out, it was especially remarkable as being a representative body from a vast society whose leading principles have always been those of loyalty and order.

Freemasonry is, in fact, an eminently respectable and important institution. Its modern history is that which belongs especially, as we know, to happy nations—that is, it has none. Occasionally, a great function brings together delegates, deputations, and members, who surprise by their numbers and the numbers they represent. As a rule it leads a peaceful existence, exciting no suspicion, challenging no enquiry, quietly increasing and growing fat in the dark. If it is publicly spoken or written of, it is with a tributary sneer, the sting of which has long been lost, referring to pretentions of an importance in quite another direction to that which the wealth and position of its adherents naturally claim for it. But these are not advanced by any member of the Craft openly, and therefore no one ought to assume that they are advanced at all. The Brotherhood again have a peculiar costume, with collars, cuffs, and grotesque things in gold and silver, at which the profane scoff. But then these adjuncts are kept for the most part in the background; it is noteworthy that Sir Albert Woods forbade Masons attending the Installation yesterday to put on Masonic clothing till they were within the Hall; the Masonic apron is not flourished like the green tunic, yellow boots, bow and arrows of the Ancient Forester, or the crimson sash of the United Temperance Leaguer; and if Hogarth has drawn a fully clothed brother making his tortuous way homewards after a convivial night, it may be pleaded that this was a hundred years ago. The Order has also, it is stated, secret words and signs by which its members may know each other; but, so long as it is certain that these pass-words and tokens are used for no evil purpose, that concerns only themselves. The Carbonari had signs by which to recognise a brother; so have the secret societies in Naples and Sicily at this day; so, too, doubtless had Guy Fawkes and his little circle of associates; but Masonry, compared with these combinations, is before the world, open, and honest. A secret *Band* which required a conspiracy of half-a-million would collapse in a week; and we may, perhaps, fairly boast that in this country the fact of a thing being secret and yet largely spread is a presumptive evidence in favour of its being harmless, or even actively benevolent. Lastly, the Brotherhood, their adversaries point out, have traditions of an antiquity compared with which the genealogy of a priestly Jew is dwarfed and that of a Breton of the *vieille roche* is annihilated. It may be so; but as these claims are only whispered within the safe retreat of Lodge, no outsider need be so weak as to be offended. In fact, there is no charge which can be maintained against Masonry at all except one—that it chooses to shut its doors; it certainly will not tell the world what is done behind those gates outside which is popularly supposed to stand a brother of peculiar determination, chosen for strength and ferocity, armed with a drawn sword. But the Craft, in this country at least, manifest the innocence of their secret conventions by the goodness of their acts. In this they reverse the rule of an early Grand Master, King Solomon, whose practice, as Sterne pointed out, was so lamentably inferior to his preaching. The brethren maintain asylums, benevolent institutions, orphanages, and schools; they keep the aged from want; and they protect the young.

From the HOUR, *29th April.*

The Prince of Wales was yesterday the central figure of a brilliant pageant. The precise nature of the pageant, and the particular features of the ceremony, it is given only to the initiated to know. To the outer world all was a blank after half-past 2 o'clock, when the great doors of the Albert Hall was inexorably closed. It involves no profanation of the sacred mysteries of Masonry to say that the building itself was decorated upon a scale of commanding splendour, that pennons and ensigns streamed from the walls, that the devices symbolical of the Fraternity were there, glittering with scarlet and jewels and that there were compasses literally aglow with diamonds. Upwards of ten thousand Masons were present within the great Hall. There were deputations from different parts of the Continent; there was in especial a lengthy and eloquent address from Rome; there was every variety of Masonic costume, from the gorgeously superb garb of the highest rank which the brethren know, to the plain black suit relieved only by the apron and the band. The Grand Lodge was opened by Lord Carnarvon. Sir Michael Costa had composed a piece of music—which is spoken of as a masterpiece—in honour of the event; and, with the sole exception of the reply of his Royal Highness, the new Grand Master vice Lord Ripon resigned, there were no speeches at all. No single element of pomp was wanting. The *personnel* of the company collected was as distinguished as the celebration was conspicuous, and will be long remembered in the annals of the Albert Hall. The Dukes of Edinburgh and of Connaught and Prince Leopold graced the great occasion; there were men famous in all the learned professions, highly placed Peers, and illustrious personages from abroad. It was impossible to walk along Piccadilly yesterday between the hours of twelve and two, or four and six, without being aware that something very unusual was going on. Cabs and carriages, laden with gentlemen apparently in evening dress, hurried to and fro; there was a numerous contingent of pedestrians who had failed to secure a conveyance of any kind; and if, instead of black broadcloth, crimson uniforms and gold lace had been the order of the day, it might have been supposed that Her Majesty was holding a levee somewhere in the direction of Kensington. The Lord Mayor drove in state from Guildhall, and the Marquis of Hartington, as Grand Senior Warden, contrived to snatch a few hours from his arduous responsibilities at St. Stephen's for the occasion. * * * * * *

The Heir Apparent, it will be seen, on accepting from the Freemasons of England the supreme dignity of the Order, is not merely acting upon the precedent of his family, but is following the example of the most eminent of living potentates and monarchs. And he is doing more than this. By the ceremony of yesterday he becomes the visible head of a society which, however enthusiastic its insignia, and however fantastic its parade of secrecy of ritual, has at its command a machinery powerful for purposes of benevolence, and is inspired by a sentiment of mutual kindliness and reciprocal assistance. When kings were despots and liberty had not dawned upon the earth secret societies may have had their terrors, and Freemasonry itself may have been regarded as the embodiment of a menace to civil discipline and political order. At the present moment there is, perhaps, no race of men more studiously loyal to the duly-constituted authority of the State than Freemasons, and when Pius IX,

(*Continued on page 283.*)

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THE THEATRES, &c.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.—This evening, RIGOLETTO. On Monday, LES HUGUENOTS. On Tuesday, DER FREISCHUTZ. On Thursday, DON GIOVANNI. On Friday, DON PASQUALE. At 8.30 each evening.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA, DRURY LANE.—This evening, LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR. On Monday, LE NOZZE DI FIGARO. On Tuesday, IL TALISMANO. At 8.30 each evening. On Monday, morning performance of OTHELLO, at 2.30. On Wednesday evening, at 8.0, OTHELLO. On Friday, at 8.0, IL GLADIATORE.

HAYMARKET.—At 7.30, A FAIR ENCOUNTER, DAVID GARRICK and THE LITTLE TREASURE.

ADELPHI.—At 7.0, SARAH'S YOUNG MAN, NICHOLAS NICKLEBY, and the BELLES OF THE KITCHEN.

PRINCESS'S.—At 7.30, ROUND THE WORLD IN EIGHTY DAYS.

LYCEUM.—At 6.50, FISH OUT OF WATER. At 7.45, HAMLET.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.0, TWENTY MINUTES WITH A TIGER. AT 7.30, THE TWO ORPHANS.

STRAND.—PAUL PRY and INTIMIDAD.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 7.45, THE MERCHANT OF VENICE.

GAIETY.—At 7.30, MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING. At 10, A NICE GIRL.

GLOBE.—At 7.0, EAST LYNNE and BLUE BEARD.

ST. JAMES'S.—At 7.30, A PHENOMENON IN A SMOCK FROCK. At 8.30, TOM COBB. Concluding with TRYING IT ON.

ROYALTY.—At 7.45, A GOOD NIGHT'S REST. At 8.15, LA PERICHOLE. At 10.15, TRIAL BY JURY.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.0, A WHIRLIGIG. At 7.45, OUR BOYS. At 10, A REGULAR FIX.

MIRROR.—MAIDS OF HONOUR, THE HIDDEN HAND, and MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME.

CHARING CROSS.—At 7.15, GOOD FOR NOTHING. At 8, A WIDOW HUNT. Concluding with THE TOODLES.

OPERA COMIQUE.—On Monday and Tuesday, LES TRENTE MILLIONS DE GLADIATOR.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, THE GOOSE WITH THE GOLDEN EGGS. At 8.0, WHITTINGTON. (Last Nights.)

CRITERION.—GIROFLE GIROFLA.

COURT.—At 7.30, SHORT AND SWEET. At 8.30, LADY FLORA.

SURREY.—THE FLOWER GIRL.

SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE.—HAMILTON'S NEW EXCURSIONS AT HOME AND ABROAD.

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67 BARBICAN, E.C.

THE EVENTS OF THE WEEK.

THE topic of the week has been the Installation, in the Royal Albert Hall, of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as M.W. Grand Master, in the presence of over 7,000 brethren and representatives from very many of the Foreign Masonic bodies. An event of equal importance has never occurred before in the whole history of our Order, either in this country or in any other. Full details, so far as it is possible to give them, will be found elsewhere in our columns. Suffice it that everything passed off most satisfactorily, thus realising our expectations that those to whom the management of so grand a ceremonial was entrusted would be found equal to the very arduous duties of the occasion. The banquet in the evening at Freemasons' Hall was on a scale of great magnificence, and quite worthy of the afternoon's ceremony.

On Friday, in the House of Lords, the Supreme Court of Judicature Act (1873) Amendment (No. 2) Bill passed through Committee, and was ordered to be reported, several noble and learned Lords offering remarks pertinent to the objects of the measure. The County Courts Bill also passed through Committee. On Monday Lord Coleridge thought it proper to offer the House a short personal explanation on a statement made on Friday night in another place on his lordship's conduct of the defence in the first Tichborne Trial. The explanation was loudly cheered, and the Lord Chancellor made a few appropriate remarks. From a Parliamentary point of view, perhaps, the explanation may have been desirable, but no one but a lunatic would imagine that the statement of a disgraced barrister could affect the honour of the gentleman who so ably presides over the Court of Common Pleas. The House then passed to the consideration of Lord Redesdale's Railway Trains Regulation Bill, which was rejected on its second reading by 56 to 24. The Public Entertainments (Hour of Opening) Bill was then read a second time, and the County Courts Bill a third time, when the House adjourned. On Tuesday the appointments of Sir William Rose, K.C.B., late Deputy Clerk of the Parliaments Clerk Assistant, and Mr. Ralph Disraeli to be Clerk of the Parliaments and Assistant Clerk respectively, were approved on the motion of the Lord Chancellor, after which the former advanced to the table, and was sworn in to the due and faithful performance of his duties, and the latter was introduced to the Lord Chancellor. The Justices of the Peace Justification Bill passed through Committee. On Thursday, on the Report of the Amendments of the Supreme Court of Judicature Act, 1873, Amendment (No. 2) Bill being brought up, Lord Selborne sketched a history of his own measure, and offered further remarks more or less pertinent. After a few observations from one or two noble lords, the Report was received. The Consolidated Fund (£15,000,000) was then read a second time, and the House adjourned.

Friday, in the House of Commons, was utterly wasted as

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regards public business; though, if we hear no more of the Tichborne case in Parliament during the rest of the Session, the debate may not be wholly fruitless. Dr. Kenealy moved the appointment of a Royal Commission, and in doing so occupied three hours. Mr. Whalley seconded the motion. The Attorney General having refuted every point noticed by Dr. Kenealy; Sir H. James, in the course of his speech, defended Lord Coleridge, and Mr. Disraeli delivered a more than usually effective speech. On division, the member for Stoke obtained the support of one member, Major O'Gorman, making, with the tellers, three in favour of the Commission, against 435 (tellers included) who opposed it. This we hope settles the question. The most important business on Monday was the Peace Preservation (Ireland) Bill. Further progress was made with it in committee, clause 3 being reached when the House rose, and the debate was ordered to be resumed on Thursday. Tuesday was marked by a very unusual occurrence; Mr. Biggar, without the slightest notice, called the Speaker's attention to the presence of strangers, and, consequently, those in the strangers' and reporters' galleries had to retire. It is understood that, during their absence, great indignation was expressed by the House, the Prime Minister leading the way, and moving the suspension, for that evening, of the standing rule as to the presence of strangers; this was carried, and in about twenty minutes, the press and the former occupants of the other galleries were permitted to re-enter. Mr. Chaplin then rose for the purpose of calling the attention of the House to the report of the Select Committee of the House of Lords in 1873, on the subject of horses, and making a motion to the effect that Government should take some steps to prevent the public deterioration of our stock; he spoke well, and at considerable length, and was seconded by Col. Kingscote. Mr. Sturt moved the previous question, and Mr. Disraeli seemed to think Government interference unnecessary. Some others took part in the debate, till, a little before nine o'clock, the House was counted out, there not being the requisite quorum of forty. On Wednesday afternoon the House agreed to the second reading of the High Court of Justiciary (Scotland) Bill, but only *pro formâ*, there being already under consideration a Bill of the Lord Advocate's, having a somewhat similar purpose. The Sheriffs' Courts (Scotland), Bill, was withdrawn, while the Licensing Courts Appeal (Scotland) Bill, was rejected by 176 to 99. The debate on the second reading of the Church Rates Abolition (Scotland) Bill, was terminated, by the rule of the House, at a quarter to six o'clock. On Thursday, the greater part of the sitting was devoted to the further consideration in Committee of the Peace Preservation (Ireland) Bill, several divisions occurring on Clause 3. Far greater progress would have been made but for Mr. Biggar, who seems not to be aware that he has been returned to a House of gentlemen, and to have constituted himself a sort of general nuisance.

On Monday H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, by command of the Queen, held a levee at St. James's Palace. There were present the Dukes of Edinburgh, Connaught, and Cambridge, H.R.H. Prince Louis of Hesse, H.R.H. Prince Christian, and His Serene Highness Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar. Her Majesty's Body Guard, under the command of the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, were on duty in the State saloons, as likewise were the Yeomen of the Guard under the command of Captain Lord Skelmersdale. Presentations were made to the number of about 300, these, by the Queen's pleasure, being regarded as equivalent to presentations to Her Majesty.

On Saturday Sir James M. Hogg, Chairman of the Metropolitan Board of Works, entertained his colleagues and a large circle of distinguished guests at Willis's Rooms, St. James's, presiding the Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Cambridge. The usual toasts were given and responded to. Among the principal speakers being their Royal Highnesses, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Speaker and the Chairman. Everything passed off most agreeably.

The recently issued Report of the Registrar-General as to the health of London during the first quarter of the year is by no means satisfactory. Considering the very typical weather that prevailed during that period, it is not surprising to learn that during it 21,257 deaths were recorded, giving a rate of mortality of 27·2 per 1,000, the rate in the March quarter 1872 having been 25·7, and for 1871 22·7. The annual rate for the forty years 1834-73 was 21·5. The excess of deaths over those of the corresponding period last year amounted to 3,253. The temperature of the air for the first few weeks of the year was in excess of the average, but for the remainder it was much below. From the week ending 30th January to that ending 6th March the temperature was below the average of the corresponding weeks in the 60 years 1814-1873; being 2·8 degrees lower in the first of three weeks, 4·5 lower in the second, and 1·3 degrees, 5·9 degrees, and 6·5 degrees lower in the third, fourth and fifth weeks respectively. These figures sufficiently explain the excessive mortality.

The ordinary fortnightly meeting of the Royal Geographical Society was held on Monday evening, at the London University, Burlington Gardens, Sir Henry Rawlinson, the President, being in the chair. Mr. Clements Markham read a very able *résumé* of the scanty geographical knowledge of Thibet, the most prominent features in which were derived from two manuscript accounts of travels by Englishmen, one a Mr. Boyle, in 1754, and the other a Mr. Manning, in 1811, both these accounts having remained hitherto unpublished, and, indeed, unknown. From these descriptions it appears that Thibet is divided into four great provinces, most of the country being at the great elevation of from 10,000 to 14,000 ft. above the sea-level. The people possess large flocks and herds, the animals being used as beasts of burden, while the rocks abound in precious metals. The modes of life and of thought that mostly prevail among the Thibetians are clearly traceable to India; the monasteries specially pointing to ideas which had their origin in the valley of the Ganges. A long and interesting discussion followed, the points chiefly touched upon being the objection of the people to have any friendly intercourse with us, and the various routes of communication with China. Before the meeting dispersed Sir Henry Rawlinson announced that the gold medals of the Society would, this year, be awarded to the two Austrian Arctic Explorers, and that an Etonian had again been successful in carrying off the gold medal for the Society's Educational Educations, while the gold medal for political geography had been awarded to a pupil of Dulwich.

Mr. George Smith has lately been delivering, at the Royal Institution, a series of interesting lectures on Assyrian History, on the 10th, 17th, and 24th ult., respectively. In these he sketched the history from the remotest times to the fall of the Assyrian empire and the capture of Nineveh. The earliest known settlers of Assyria were a race speaking a Turanian tongue. Their civilisation was of a very high type, but at a remote period, not yet ascertainable, these Turanians were overrun by hoards of Semites from, it is suggested, Arabia. These borrowed the learning and arts of their predecessors, and advanced to a high state of civilisation, for, though no Assyrian monument dates prior to 2300 B.C., the advanced state of the arts of engineering and architecture, and the high development of the mythology, necessarily pre-suppose a long stage of infancy and many ages of gradual growth. The lecturer then described a document of the greatest importance which he had lately discovered in the British Museum, and which contained an account of the Creation more nearly resembling that found in the Book of Genesis. The first lecture ended with the reign of Tiglath-Pileser I. In the second, Mr. Smith sketched the relations of Assyria to the Hebrew monarchy, while in his last and concluding lecture, were described the reigns of Esarhaddon and Assurbanipal and the remaining history of the Empire.

The annual meeting of the Art Union of London was held on Tuesday afternoon, in the Adelphi Theatre, Lord Houghton presiding. The report was first read, and this showed a satisfactory condition of the finances of the Society. Lord Houghton then moved and Mr. Geo. Godwin seconded the adoption of this report, which having been agreed to, the drawing for the prizes was proceeded with. The winners of the most important were Mr. Howe, of 107 Fleet-street, who became entitled to select a picture of the value of £250; Mr. C. J. Pooley to one of £200; and Messrs. H. Cushen and J. Dobell each to one of £150; and Messrs. Broadwater, Chorlton, Walters and Miss Sidebotham each to one of the value of £100. The same by the award of prizes for the best pictures in oil and water colours was made at the Crystal Palace, the judges appointed by the company being Messrs. H. T. Wells, R.A., J. Brown and Louis L. Desanges. These fulfilled their not very enviable task with great care and discrimination. A large number of medals, gold, silver and bronze, were awarded in the several classes into which the competing pictures were divided.

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, who are clearly

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determined that Civic hospitality shall in no degree suffer in public estimation during their occupancy of the Mansion House, entertained the various members of the London School Board at dinner on Saturday evening, there being present, among others, the Earl of Roseberry, Lords Napier and Ettrick, Sir J. and Lady Hill, Sir Charles Reed (Chairman of the Board) and Lady Reed, Mr. E. H. Currie (Vice-Chairman), Sir John and Lady Bennett. The usual toasts were given, and then the toast of the evening, which was appropriately acknowledged by Sir Charles Reed, who, having first thanked the Lord Mayor for his courteous hospitality, sketched the duties which the Board had to perform, and expressed a hope that they should not be found wanting in the performance of those duties.

The chief event in athletic circles has been the four mile race on Monday at Lillie Bridge, between Slade, the one-mile champion, and Gibb, the four-mile champion. The former has won the mile championship three years running, and also the four-mile championship, in fact from half-a-mile upwards he is one of the best amateurs we have had. The match calls for no special comment. Gibb kept the lead till the very last lap, when Slade spurted, and came in winner by 30 yards. The times were as follow: half-mile 2 m. 15 sec.; 1 mile 4 m. 48 sec.; 2 miles 10 m. 3 sec.; 3 miles 15 m. 21 sec.; and 4 miles 20 m. 22 sec.; which is said to be the best amateur time on record. The event of the sporting world has been the winning of the Two Thousand Guineas by Camballo. There were thirteen started, the three places being Camballo first; Picnic second; and Breechloader third.

The operatic season, both at Her Majesty's, Drury Lane, and the Royal Italian Opera still flourishes. Among the performances at the former may be mentioned that of Rossini's *Barbiere di Siviglia*, in which Mdlle. Belocca appears to have made a fairly successful *début* as Rosina, and *Lucrezia Borgia* with Mdlle. Titiens in the rôle of Lucrezia. At the latter have been given on Friday last, "by desire," Auber's *Fra Diavolo*, the Prince of Wales being present during the whole of the performance, and on Monday Rossini's *Guglielmo Tell*. On Saturday the first Floral Hall Concert of the season was given, most of the artistes from the Royal Italian Opera "assisting." The first of a series of five afternoon Concerts, to be given on alternate Saturdays, by Dr. Wylde, passed off very successfully on Saturday last. The next will be held on the 8th instant at St. James's Hall.

The chief items of foreign news relate to matters ecclesiastical. The old struggle for supremacy between Church and State still rages in Germany, and the new English Cardinal Manning signalises his promotion to a Cardinal's hat by cordial denunciations of those who uphold the claims of the State. The most interesting event in Paris is the party disturbance on Saturday, at the Chatelet Theatre, over the new drama, *Cromwell*. "Ces Misérables Royalistes" and other Republicans gave full expression to their sympathies by indulging in a free fight, to put down which the assistance of the police was found necessary. The play was then allowed to end in peace, but in consequence of this *émeute* the authorities have prohibited the performance of the drama. As usual, rumours of the most opposite character are flying about respecting the important question, War or Peace? These necessarily cause a large amount of disquiet, but there seems no reason to believe that the peace of Europe is likely to be disturbed at present. Naturally the political *quidnuncs* must keep up their reputation for a familiar acquaintance with all the ins and outs of politics, and hence these shaves innumerable, and as contradictory as they are numerous. The Imperial Crown Prince and Princess of Germany have paid a visit *incog* to Italy, while in Spain there is the same old story—more fighting without satisfactory results. From India we hear the Guicowar of Baroda has been deposed, by order of the Viceroy, on the ground of his notorious misconduct and misgovernment, and his known incapacity to carry out the necessary reforms. The native administration will, however, be re-established, and the Guicowar will be permitted to select his residence and have suitable allowances.

Distinguished brethren who were present at the Installation are requested to be kind enough to send a copy of their portrait or carte de visite to Bro. E. J. Harty, 9 Barnard's Inn, E.C., for the purpose of being embodied in the grand historical line engraving about to be published, for which Bro. Harty was authorised to take sketches on the occasion. The portraits may be forwarded also to this Office, or to Spencer's Masonic Depôt, for the purpose.

The regular meeting of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls was held on Thursday, the 29th ult., Bro. Major Creaton P.G.D. V.P. in the chair. The minutes of the Special House Committees, the Special Quarterly Court, and the Audit Committee were read and confirmed, and the result of the late Election was declared. Bro. Col. Burdett P.G.M. (Middlesex) was elected a Trustee. A vacancy having occurred on the House Committee, fourteen brethren were nominated for election. The following were elected on the Audit Committee, viz., J. G. Chancellor, H. C. Levander, J. Nunn, W. Paas, W. Roebuck, J. Symonds, R. B. Webster, H. M. Levy, and J. G. Marsh. Several candidates were placed on the list. The following brethren were present, viz. Bros. H. Browse, T. W. White, A. H. Tattershall, J. G. Marsh, W. Paas, H. A. Dubois, J. M. Vaughan, H. W. Hemsworth, R. Webster, P. M. Holden, R. Spencer, R. W. Stewart, Dubosc, H. M. Levy, Dr. F. Ramsay.

To-day takes place the formal opening of the Alexandra Palace and Park. The Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs, together with the Wardens of the principal City Guilds and other magnates, will be present in full Civic state. The chief feature of the ceremonial will be a grand concert under the direction of Bro. Sir Michal Costa, who will be supported by the leading *artistes*, both vocal and instrumental, of Her Majesty's Opera Company. The Central Transept has been so arranged as to afford accommodation for seating an audience of 12,000, and an orchestra of 2,000, surpassing in this respect the Royal Albert Hall, which will only accommodate 10,300. On the north-west and north-east sides of the building are a concert room and a theatre, which will hold 3,500 and 3,000 persons respectively. The refreshment department occupies nearly the whole of the south part of the Palace, and there is also detached from the main building a large and commodious banqueting hall which will dine 1,500 persons, the caterers being Messrs. Bertram and Roberts. For out-door entertainment are a race course, a large swimming bath, cricket ground, &c. &c. There is every reason to anticipate a prosperous season. The programme is a highly attractive one, and if the clerk of the weather be only a little more considerate than he has been of late, the Directors may look to obtaining some reward commensurate with the time and labour they have devoted.

On Tuesday H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught was raised to the sublime degree of M.M., in the Lodge "Prince of Wales," No. 259, held at Willis's Rooms, St. James's. This Lodge has been specially honoured by the membership of former royal brethren. The warrant of constitution was granted in 1787, by M.W.G.M. H.R.H. the Duke of Cumberland, at the instance of H.R.H. George Prince of Wales. In 1792, their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of York and Clarence were appointed to the Senior and Junior Wardenships respectively. In 1823, the Duke of York was installed W.M., by his royal brother H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex, and after the Duke of York's death, the Duke of Sussex G.M. convened a special Grand Lodge, 22nd February 1828, which was opened in ample form at the Thatched House Tavern, and the Duke of Clarence duly installed W.M.

The Spring General Meeting of the National Rifle Association will be held on the 13th inst., at the Royal United Service Institution, on which occasion H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, the President of the Association, will occupy the chair.

The first meeting of the Festival Stewards of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys was held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, on Tuesday, the 27th ult. Bro. Sutcliffe P.P.G.S.W. Lincolnshire, was voted to the chair. It was then proposed and seconded that the price of the tickets disposed of should be £2 2s for the brethren, and ladies' tickets to be 10s 6d (subject to revision). Bros. S. Rosenthal, Dubosc and H. M. Levy were appointed on the musical committee. A discussion took place as to

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the advisability of the Festival being held at the Alexandra Palace or at Freemasons' Hall, and a sub-committee was formed—Bro. Marsh in the chair—to meet at the Alexandra Palace, and subsequently report thereon to the next meeting. It was also proposed that the various details in connection with those arrangements be left to Bro. F. Binckes, the worthy secretary, which was carried. It was also proposed that invitations be sent to THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, *Freemason*, *Era*, &c. A vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Sutcliffe, for his admirable and impartial presidency.

Bro. John Baum, the energetic proprietor and manager of Cremorne Gardens, made the Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales the occasion for a grand pyrotechnic display, in which the emblems of Royalty and Freemasonry were most brilliantly and effectively combined.

It would have been strange had our popular contemporary *Punch* allowed the ceremony of the Installation to pass without having a good-natured joke or two at the expense of our Order. Accordingly, we learn from its columns, that "Teddy the Tiler" is anxious to know what rank the Marble Arch holds in Freemasonry.

Bro. Thomas Holmes Gore, Clerk at the Mansion House Justice Room, has been appointed Clerk to the Justices of the City of Bristol.

Bro. Stanley Dust resumes his former position of manager to that talented actress, Mrs. John Wood.

The Anniversary Festival of the Infant Orphan Asylum, Wanstead, was held on Monday evening, at Willis's Rooms, the Duke of Cambridge in the chair. There are at present 340 boys and 260 girls in this Institution; the cost of educating and maintaining whom is £18,000. After the toast of "Prosperity to the Asylum" had been eloquently proposed by his Royal Highness, the Secretary, Mr. H. W. Green, announced a list of subscriptions, amounting in the aggregate to over £1,800.

A copy of the bust of H.R.H. the Grand Master, which is being produced to meet an extensive demand, by Bros. Crapper and Marsh of Staffordshire, may be seen in an unfinished state at Spencer's Masonic Depôt. The price will be £2 2s, and with pedestal £2 10s.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Wonder-working Remedies.—As the battle of life has to be fought alike by the naturally feeble and the constitutionally strong, how momentous is it to preserve the former from adventitious ailments! A scratch on the leg, slight swelling, or inflammation about the ankles, which would have been cured at once by Holloway's medicaments, grow, from want of the commonest precautions, into grievous diseases, which throw the sufferer on the bed of sickness, and, perhaps, his family on the parish. Every peasant's home should have these remedies, they will save both parents and children from much misery, and, above all, they will remove their complaints at a trifling cost, and leave no disheartening heavy bill behind.

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classed them with Fenians he was intentionally discrediting the Craft in a manner as unjust as it was conspicuous. The Prince of Wales has always taken a strong interest in the welfare of the Order, as, indeed, he has done, and does invariably, in whatever is nationally useful and popular. Installed as Grand Master, he is promoted to a position for which he was singularly adapted. The Marquis of Ripon's loss was not the subject of excusable regret with the Brotherhood; his Lordship's succession by a Prince whose social qualities are as admirable as his energies in fulfilling the social duties of his station are indefatigable is a matter of something more than universal satisfaction. The Italian address, in which it was said, "By this event English Masonry, that has already deserved so well of humanity, will acquire even fresh titles to the gratitude and admiration of the whole world," may seem somewhat couched in the language of hyperbole; but there can be no doubt that the feeling to which it points is real, and it is at least pleasing to know that a Prince who is so popular at home has already excited sentiments of so lively a nature abroad. There are, perhaps, two reflections which in an especial degree the ceremonial of yesterday suggest. We leave to enthusiastic antiquaries to ascertain whether it was Noah or Solomon, or his more modern Majesty George III., who was the first Free and Accepted Mason. But of this there can be no doubt, that the nomination of the Prince of Wales to the position of Grand Master is symbolical of two facts—the first, that England, speaking through the eldest son of England's Queen, can have no sympathy with that phase of ecclesiasticism which, affecting to be the sole and exclusive depository of the "mystical principle," sees in Freemasonry its most dangerous foe; the second, that, whatever may have been in the past, Freemasonry in England in the nineteenth century is by no means a menace to the first principles of social order,

INSTALLATION OF A NEW DISTRICT G.M. FOR THE PUNJAB.

OUR latest advices from India contain full details of this important ceremonial. An Emergency meeting of the District Grand Lodge for the Punjab was held at Freemasons' Hall, Labore, on Friday, the 26th February last, at 7.30 p.m. Wor. Bro. G. Daly P.D.D.G.M. of Bengal, presided as D.G.M., and there were present Wor. Bros. A. M. Saunders D.G.S.W., and W. Mellor D.G.J.W.; Rev. Bro. J. B. Brunesson B.A. D.G. Chaplain, and Wor. Bros. Major W. Hadow D.G. Registrar, Major W. H. Mackesy D.G. Treasurer, George Davies D.D. Secretary, Capt. Fred. Grundy D.G.S.D., James Wilkinson as D.G.J.D., and Henry T. Tanner, C.E., D.G. Superintendent of Works, with Bro. Capt. Lewis W. Taylor D.G. Organist, C. W. Calthrop M.D. D.G. D. of Ceremonies, William Bull D.G. Pursuivant; Bros. J. W. Le Marchand, J. J. Davies, and J. B. Tapp, Stewards; Bro. George Read, Tyler; and Bros. Leighton, Barrister-at-Law, and R. Keene as visitors. There were also present representatives of twelve out of the seventeen Lodges in the District, viz., Wor. Bro. W. E. Ball P.M., on behalf of Lodge Himalayan Brotherhood, No. 459; Wor. Bro. A. M. Saunders, Lodge Charity, No. 563; Wor. Bro. C. W. Calthrop M.D. W.M., and Bros. W. Le Marchand J.W., E. W. Parker, H. L. Jones and R. Spencer, for Lodge Hope and Perseverance, No. 782; Wor. Bro. Fred. Grundy P.M., Lodge Wahab, No. 988, besides representatives for Lodges Ravee, No. 1215, Indus, No. 1279, Jumna, No. 1394, Mayo, No. 1413, Light in the Himalayahs No. 1448, Sutlej, No. 1442, St. John the Evangelist, No. 1483, and Industry, No. 1405. The Lodge having been opened at the appointed time with prayer, the Acting District G.M. then stated the object of the meeting. The R.W.D.G.M. was introduced, and the District G. Secretary read the patent of appointment by the M.W.G.M. of "Marmaduke Ramsay of Mean Meer in the East Indies, Captain Bengal Staff Corps, &c., &c., &c.," to be District Grand Master of the Punjab. The R.W. officiating Dist. G.M. then addressed a few appropriate remarks, in the course of which he pointed out that it had been his good fortune to officiate both on the present occasion, and also at the installation of the late District Grand Master, Bro. Mercer. Having then congratulated the Dist. G.M. elect, and the Dist. Grand Lodge on the choice of their new ruler, the officiating D.G.M. proceeded with the ceremony with all the usual formalities, after which Dist. G.M. Ramsay was duly obligated and enthroned, and received the congratulations of all present. D.G.M. Ramsay then addressed a few words of thanks, and also drew a short sketch of the Dist. G.L. He showed that the District was founded in 1868, in accordance with a petition addressed to the M.W.G.M., and Bro. Mercer was installed as Dist. G.M. on 12th March 1869. There were at that time only seven Lodges in the district, and the number of subscribing members was 217. By the end of 1869 two more, the Indus and Multan, had been added. In 1870, Light of the North came into existence. Next year no addition was made, and Lodge Phœnix was placed in abeyance. In 1872 warrants were issued to Lodges Jumna and Mayo, while in 1873 no less than six Lodges received or applied for warrants. None were added in 1874, but on the 31st December of that year the number of subscribing members on the rolls was 483. Thus in the short space of about 7 years since the district was established the number of Lodges had increased from seven to seventeen, and the number of members from 217 to 463. Nor is this the sum of the progress that has been made, for every Lodge had been visited in the course of the last two years by one or other of the District Grand Masters, and in every case the report was most satisfactory. The District Grand Master then drew attention to the Masonic Institution of the district. This commenced with Lodge Hope and Perseverance, and took its present shape in 1871. The proposition was brought forward by Wor. Bro. Baseri, who was then D.G.S.W. at the D.G.L. meeting held on 14th January of that year. We then received 4,000 rupees from the Lodge Hope and Perseverance, and by the end of last year such additions had been made as brought it to nearly 13,500 rupees, of which 12,800 rupees were invested. This enabled them to educate four boys, two at the Bishop's school at Simla, and two at the Lahore High School. The Deputy Grand Master then announced that he had appointed certain officers as follow: Wor. Bro. Major G. N. Money, Past D.G.S.W. as D.D.G.M.; and Wor Bro.

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J. R. Campbell, W.M. of Lodge Mayo, and an old P.M., to be D.G.D. of Ceremonies in room of Wor. Bro. Colonel Minchin, who had resigned. A vote of thanks to Bro. Major Beamish, 36th Reg., having been passed, for making over the Vice-Presidency of the P.M.I. to the D.G.M. for the time being, and several warm and hearty letters of congratulation having been read from sundry brethren and Lodges, and also several apologies for inability to be present, the D.G.L., having no further business to transact, was closed in the usual manner at 10 p.m.

MASONIC ENERGY.

IT is generally believed among the profane that Masons devote such energies as they possess to the important studies, "What to eat, drink and avoid," and "How to spend a happy day." We are looked on, in fact, as what the late "A. Ward, showman," would probably have described as a vast body of "gay and festive cusses"—who never weary of banquetting, with its attendant toasts and harmony. When our regular course of meetings is run, we hold Emergency meetings, and when we have nothing better to do, we run about to other Lodges, receiving—as we have previously given—hospitality. If nothing worse than this could be said of any body of men, we fancy the world would be a little less wicked than it is. To be a convivial fellow—by which we mean not either a "Greedy Jack" or a "Guzzling Jimmy"—implies the possession of many good qualities. A man must be genial, open-hearted, take good broad common sensible views of things. He must have a tender regard for the weaknesses, and it may be, the prejudices of his next neighbour, carefully avoiding what may create sourness or soreness of temper. He must study the proprieties of time, place, and circumstance, introducing no awkward or unseemly references to painful events that have passed, and being, in fact, prepared to do all that lies in his power to promote the general entertainment. The man who can do all these things well is certainly not a bad fellow, but the belief that Masons devote their energies to the one pursuit of pleasure is a most erroneous one. All members have not the same energy, but it occurs to us we can point to a very formidable array of brethren who never weary in their efforts to advance the interests of our Order or the institutions it fosters. These exhibit an astounding energy, and notably the following among them. A W.M. who is desirous of keeping or raising his Lodge into good working order, stands little chance of success if he is not a man of energy. He may be perfect in our ritual, an example to follow in all that relates to the main scope of our Order, but, without energy to carry them into practice his knowlege and example will be of little service. Attendance at Lodge will begin to fall off, carelessness, or, perhaps, a state of somnolence will affect the members. The W.M. then who keeps his Lodge well up to the work may, *ipso facto*, be assumed to possess an energy, not limited by the pursuit of happiness or the study of good dinners. So with the secretary of a Lodge. Few are, or should be, content with the mere routine business of preparing minutes or sending out notices. That these should be attended to is essential to the well-being of the Lodge. But there are other duties he may perform. By tact and energy he may help forward the labours of a W.M., and being often a P.M., who during his occupancy of the chair had done good service, he is anxious to keep up the fair fame which he had helped to secure, and he applies himself therefore zealously to his functions, by no means limiting his attention to those which are purely official. Then the Stewards of our Anniversary Festivals. Energy, or the want of it, makes all the difference between a high and low standard of contribution. Accidental circumstances, such as a good donation from some millionaire or the presidency of a prince of blood royal, or of some eminent nobleman, will occasionally explain any abnormal increase of the Stewards' lists; but a slow and sure increase or diminution in this total amount marks whether, as a body, the brethren who have undertaken these most important functions are men of energy or indifferent to their trust. Now the wonderful progress that has been made of late years by the Order, points to something more than a few exceptional displays of energy. We are so distributed throughout the country that it is possible to explain our advance in numbers and the world's esteem except by the energy of the main body of the Order, and especially of those to whom the governance of our Lodges is delegated. In fact Masonic energy is directed in the main towards the development of our Order, and not to mere festivity. The slowly increasing aggregate of our annual contributions to the several Masonic Charities betokens a greater energy on the part of the Stewards. But where energy is most needed, and where, happily, it is in the highest degree illustrated, is in those to whom the business of the Masonic Charities is chiefly entrusted, and equally in those members through whom the business of Grand Lodge or of Provincial Grand Lodges is made known, in the former case to the whole Order, and in the latter to the Lodges of the various provinces. The routine of duty is in the case of these brethren a never-ending one, varied not unfrequently by unusual pressure, yet very seldom by slackness. Let us try to imagine the amount of labour which the recent Installation of our M.W.G.M. has entailed on sundry of the Grand Officers. It were far easier to reckon what they have not been called upon to do or suffer. We assume, to begin with, that none of them have been allowed a moment's rest whenever it has been in the power of any busybody or disappointed brother to air his particular grievance. Everybody conceives he has a right to badger a Secretary or Director of Ceremonies. What otherwise were these latter invented for. Then again, the Secretaries of our Institutions are fair game for the busy trifler. One wants to know the whole history of a small item of expenditure, amounting to a few pence. Another is nervous about the growing extravagance of the Board of Management, because one more box of steel pens has been purchased than in the previous year. Then another wants a presentation all to himself, knowing all the time the absurdity of preferring such a request. These are a few only of the minor annoyances to which a Secretary of every board is made liable. But there are far more trying duties for them to perform. They have to be here, there, and everywhere, all over London, round about the provinces, in person or by deputy, so that the claims to support of the Charities they represent must be ever kept before the world of Masonry. All this movement of course entails much personal labour, their advocacy of the cause of Charity is a duty and a pleasure, but he who observes this office faithfully, has little chance of much personal rest and enjoyment. Day after day office work; evening after evening the cause of charity must be pleaded, so that a zealous and energetic Secretary must be content to have one day's rest in the course of the week, and then find himself too tired to enjoy it. Yet they bear it all famously. They are genial and courteous, ever ready to go anywhere so that the cause they advocate may be bettered, be it never so little. Is there reason in the accusation that Masonic energy looks only to a course of good feeds, and the more the jollier, when we can point to such grand results as have been achieved in these latter years, both in respect of the extension of our Order, and of the greater amount of good we are doing? These sneers of the silly, however, are like the blows of the little woman who was constantly whacking her husband—a huge giant of a "navvy." They please the silly, but they hurt not Masonry.

MASONIC GATHERINGS ON THE EVENING OF THE FESTIVAL.

THROUGHOUT the metropolis every available resort, and every place where the good things of this life are provided, was taxed to its utmost to satisfy the requirements of those of our brethren who never consider a Masonic celebration complete till it has been supplemented by a banquet. Fortunate, indeed, were those who had taken steps to arrange beforehand, as the cry was universal that every seat was engaged, and so soon as one party had satisfied their cravings, another was ready to tax the powers of the enterprising caterers. At the Holborn Restaurant, the Criterion, Simpson's, the popular restaurants in the Strand, and even to Richmond, to the well-known "Star and Garter," did brethren wend their steps, and again and again did regrets arise that no accommodation was to be found. This was not to be wondered at when we remember that, in addition to those who attended the Festival at the Albert Hall, almost every Lodge throughout the kingdom considered itself bound to celebrate the occasion in some way or another, and the most popular one was to meet those members of their respective Lodges who had been so fortunate as to obtain tickets, and discuss the events of the day at some popular and well-known resort. At the Cannon Street Hotel a joint banquet of the Lion and Lamb Lodge, 192, and the William Preston Lodge, 766, took place, and here the brethren mustered to the number

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of 110. At the Temple Club, our indefatigable Brother John Constable had arranged that the members of the Lodge of Tranquillity, 185, should assemble and dine with their friends of the Craft. This gathering was well attended, and a most agreeable evening was passed, amongst those present being P.M.'s Saul Solomon, M. Harris, M. Hart, R. Z. Bloomfield, N. Moss; Bros. J. Constable I.P.M., J. D. Barnett S.W., D. Posener J.W., I. Pearlman Treasurer, P. Levy Secretary; Gluckstein, Barber, Bayley J.D., Janralde, Parkinson, Brocksopp, T. E. Smith I.G., 185; while the Province of Cheshire was represented by Bros. Beresford P.M. P.P.S.G.D., Goodacre P.M. P.P.G.P., Sykes P.M., Cooke S.W., Wakefield P.M., Barber I.G., Shaw J.W., of Lodge 105; Mellon 1045, Johnson P.M. 1059, Warren P.M. 44, East Lancashire; W. J. Hughan P.M. 131 P.G.S.D. England. P.G. Secretary Cornwall; W. Middleton P.M. 131, T. H. Dorrington P.M. 131, P.P.G.D., J. C. R. Crewes W.M. 131, T Solomon P.M. 131, P.S.G.W. Cornwall; G. Broadbridge P.M. 241, P.P.G.D.C., W. Chudley W.M. 241, West Lancashire; H. S. Alpass P.G. Sec., R. Brown S.W. 241, G. Hutchins J.W. 241, G. Peet Sec. 241, West Lancashire; Thos. Robinson P.M. 709 P.P.G.C. Cambridge, P.G.S.W. Kent; C. G. Robinson S.W. 709; Morgan 1385, Duffy 1257. The brethren of the Metropolitan Lodge, 1507, met at Bro. Hogg's the Opera Hotel, Bow Street, where a capital banquet was provided. Bro. Jas. Willing presided, and, after proposing the usual loyal toasts, said the meeting was a friendly one, and he was proud to see the brethren present. He would ask them to give a hearty reception to the next toast—"The Health of the M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales." (Cheers.) He alluded to the hearty and magnificent reception His Royal Highness had received at the Albert Hall, and to the manner in which he had discharged his duties on his inauguration. It was a feeling of great satisfaction to every brother who witnessed it. Bro. Lucking (P.M. Priory Lodge, No. 1000) proposed the toast of Bro. Willing, the worthy chairman, who returned thanks; and then proposed the toast of Bros. Lucking and Wardell, in the course of his remarks wishing them every prosperity in the new Chapter to be consecrated on Saturday at Southend. The health of Bro. Supt. Jas. Mott was next proposed by the chairman. Bro. Mott was only to be known to be respected, he was one who discharged his duties fearlessly and impartially. Bro. Mott, in thanking the W.M. for his kind expressions, said that he had had some experience in witnessing large gatherings, but he had never seen so glorious a sight as that presented at the Albert Hall, nor one more orderly; not a mishap occurred, and that was a great thing to say in a gathering of so many thousands. Everything was conducted in a true spirit of brotherly feeling, and it seemed as if every brother was determined to assist the Stewards in the fulfilment of their duties. Among those present were Bros. Rochford 160 P.G.A.D.C. (Essex), Michael W.M. elect 1507, Berris J.W. Burdett Lodge, Mavle P.M. 1004, Athol Lodge, Douglass Isle of Man, Williams Secretary 177 and J.W. 1507, Robins P.M. 276, Child S.D. 1507, Bellis 1000, Scales, J. Mott (St. Clement Danes), Belcham, Stiles, Read, &c.

CORRESPONDENCE.

All Letters must bear the name and address of the Writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

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MASONIC ASPIRANTS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I am an old Past Master, and am proud and happy to be ranked as one. I have been a Mason 25 years. I always had a wish to arrive at the position I now hold, and always felt pleased to hear that the members of the Lodge to which I belonged had worked their way from the office of Steward to that of Worshipful Master. At the time when I entered Freemasonry, the very fact of an officer being competent was an inducement for his being promoted to the duties of office, so much for years gone by. In the present age brethren who have retentive memories must not forget that those beautiful ceremonies once given impressively are never forgotten by candidates, but are remembered by them in after years. Still, to enable our younger brethren to make themselves competent Masons, they must attend Lodges of Instruction. There they will find a simple yet true elucidation of the so-called mysteries of our Order, they will learn there what Freemasonry really is. One of the first steps to be taken by the aspirant is to obtain the appointment of Steward to one of our Masonic Festivals. To any Brother hearted in the cause he undertakes, this appointment will not be difficult to obtain. I may direct attention to the fact that the list of Stewards for the Boys' School comprises 208 names, and I hope to see as many for the Girls. The Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution has done its work nobly, and I am convinced will do so again and again.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

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DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be greatly obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the kingdom would favour us with a copy of their summonses each time of issue.

SATURDAY, 1st MAY.

General Committee, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
142—St. Thomas's, Willis's Rooms, King-street, St. James's.
1426—Great City, Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street (Emergency).

1458—Truth, Royal Archer Inn, Manchester.

MONDAY, 3rd MAY.

16—Royal Alpha, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.
25—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall.
188—Joppa, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
256—Unions, Freemasons' Hall.
1319—Asaph, Freemasons' Hall.

37—Anchor and Hope, Freemasons' Hall, Bolton.
50—Knights of Malta, George Hotel, Hinckley.
51—Royal Sussex, Masonic Hall, Bath.
113—Unanimity, Bull Hotel, Preston.
119—Sun, Square and Compasses, Freemasons' Hall, Whitehaven.
154—Unanimity, Masonic Hall, Wakefield, Yorks.
381—Harmony and Industry, New Inn, Over Darwen.
1009—Shakspeare, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
1045—Stamford, Town Hall, Altrincham.
1051—Rowley, Athenæum, Lancaster.
1054—Southam, Railway Hotel, Wilmslow.
1077—Wilton, Red Lion Hotel, Blackley, near Manchester.
1211—Goderich, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
1224—Beacon Tree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
1249—Wentworth, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
1302—De Warren, Masonic Hall, Halifax, Yorks.
1519—Albert Edward, Albion Hotel, Clayton-le-Moors.

R. A. 380—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Morley.
R. A. 605—De Tabley, Seacombe Hotel, Seacombe.

TUESDAY, 4th MAY.

Colonial Board at 3, Freemasons' Hall.
18—Old Dundee, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
171— mity, Ship Hotel, Greenwich.
765—St. James', Bridge House Hotel, Southwark.
1257—Grosvenor, Caledonian Hotel, Adelphi.
1259—Duke of Edinburgh, Cape of Good Hope Tavern, Commercial-road.
1281—Golden Rule, Cafe Royal, Regent-street.
1286—Royal Standard, Marquess Tavern, Canonbury.
1472—Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich.

R. A. 169—Temperance, White Swan Tavern, Deptford.
R. A. 507—United Pilgrims, Horns Tavern, Kennington.

57—Humber, Freemasons' Hall, Hull.
70—St. John's, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
103—Beaufort, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
124—Marquis of Granby, Freemasons' Hall, Durham.
285—Royal Yorkshire, Masonic Hall, Keighley, Yorks.
764—Fawcett, Freemasons' Hall, West Hartlepool.
995—Furness, Masonic Temple, Ulverston.
1002—Skiddaw, Market Place, Cockermouth.
1134—Newall, Freemasons' Hall, Salford.
1244—Marwood, Freemasons' Hall, Redcar.
1322—Waverley, Church Inn, Hurst Cross, Ashton-under-Lyne.
1476—Blackpool, Clifton Arms Hotel, Blackpool.

R. A. 111—Vigilance, Freemasons' Hall, Darlington.
R. A. 124—Concord, Freemasons' Hall, Durham.
R. A. 203—St. John Jerusalem, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
R. A. 296—Loyalty, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.

WEDNESDAY, 5th MAY.

Grand Chapter, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
1491—Athenæum, The Athenæum, Camden-road, Holloway, N.

74—Athol, Masonic Hall, Severn-street, Birmingham.
81—Doric, Private Room, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

THURSDAY, 6th MAY.

10—Westminster and Keystone, Freemasons' Hall.
27—Egyptian, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
45—Strong Man, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, Basinghall-street.
231—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall.
554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
1156—Excelsior, Sydney Arms, Lewisham-road.
1349—Royal Arthur, Duke of Edinburgh Hotel, New Wimbledon.
1445—Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tavern, Sandringham-road, Kingsland.
R. A. 2—St. James', Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 174—Sincerity, Cheshire Cheese Tavern, Crutched-friars.
R. A. 176—Caveac, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.

24—Newcastle-on-Tyne, Freemasons' Hall, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
31—United Industrious, Guildhall, Canterbury.
36—Union, Council Chambers, Chichester.
41—Royal Cumberland, Masonic Hall, Bath.
110—Royal Cambrian, Bush Hotel, Merthyr Tydvil.
269—Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Carlton Hill, Leeds.
372—Harmony, Rollea Arms, Budleigh Salterton.
1304—Olive Union, Masonic Hall, Banks-street, Horncastle.

FRIDAY, 7th MAY.

706—Florence Nightingale, Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich.

R. A. 3—Fidelity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate.
R. A. 8—British, Freemasons' Hall.

44—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.

SATURDAY, 8th MAY.

173—Phœnix, Freemasons' Hall.
176—Caveac, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
1325—Granite, Freemasons' Hall.
1361—United Service, Greyhound, Richmond, Surrey.

IRELAND.

MONDAY—116—Carlow, Masonic Hall, Dublin-street, Carlow.
" 122—Patrick's, Masonic Hall, Dungannon, co. Tyrone.
TUESDAY—304—Ballymahon, Court House, Ballymahon.
" 719—St. Albans, Private House, Main-street, Newtownstamavaly, Derry.
" 881—Clones, Thompson's Hotel, Clones, Ireland.
" 935—True Blue, Wexford.
WEDNESDAY—51—Temple, Masonic Rooms, Belfast.
" 555—Harmony, Masonic Rooms, Francis-street, Fermoy.
FRIDAY—110—Kilrea, Kilrea, co. Derry.
" 164—Commercial, Masonic Hall, Londonderry.
" 229—Gorey, Gorey.

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EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—439—St. Kentigern, Royal Hotel, Penicuik.
TUESDAY—5—Canongate and Leith (L. and C.), 86 Constitution-street.
THURSDAY—97—St. James, St. James Hall, Writer's-court.
FRIDAY—291—Celtic of Edinburgh and Leith, Ship Hotel, East Register-street

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

New Concord Lodge of Instruction, No. 813.—The ceremony of consecration and installation was worked on the 21st ult at Bro. H. Gabbe's, the Rosemary Branch Tavern, by Bro. Jas. Terry P.G.D.C. Herts, Secretary Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, in the presence of above 60 brethren, in his usual perfect and impressive manner. The necessary vessels being kindly lent by Bro. Lamb (of St. John's Square). The brethren then sat down to a cold collation. Bro. Jas. Terry presided, and gave the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts. Bro. John Emmens P.G.P. eloquently responded to the toast of the Grand Officers past and present. The Chairman, in proposing the toast, "Success to the New Concord Lodge of Instruction," coupled with it the name of the respected and energetic Secretary. Bro. W. H. Main P.M. 813, who suitably replied. Bro. T. Bartlett P.M. 813, in proposing the toast of Bro. Terry, spoke at length of the worthy brother's Masonic qualifications, and thanked him in the name of all present for the great Masonic treat he had afforded them. Bro. Terry, in reply, expressed the pleasure he had in performing those ceremonies; he also begged leave to tender his thanks to the brethren for the attention they paid him, which made his work much lighter, and spoke of the excellent arrangements, carried out in so able a manner by the Officers who had assisted him. His thanks also were due to Bro. Walsh, Organist 813, for his musical talents. Bro. H. Gabbe, in very happy and felicitous terms, responded to the toast of "The Host and Hostess." To sum up our remarks, one of those evenings was passed where true Masonic feeling was exemplified, and good feeling and harmony prevailed.

Finsbury Lodge, No. 861.—A meeting was held on 23rd April, at the Rosemary Branch Tavern, Islington. Bros. W. Meanwell W.M., Odell S.W., H. Thomas J.W., E. Legg S.D., W. Groome J.D., W. Mackey P.M. D.C., Meacock Steward, W. Lowles I.G., C. Speight Tyler, Tho. E. Purdy P.M. Secretary, G. Leach P.M. Treasurer. Past Masters Bond, Mackey, R. Leach, Stokes, Nicholls. The visitor was Bro. Harran 101. Business transacted:—Initiated Mr. Goldsmith; passed Bros. Townsend and Marcham; elected Bros. F. Thomas J.W. as Master; G. Leach P.M. Treasurer, C. Speight Tyler.

Royal Oak Lodge, No. 871.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on the 22nd ult., at the White Swan Tavern, Deptford. Bro. G. Andrews I.P.M. occupied the chair, in the absence of the W.M., H. J. Tuson S.W., J. J. Pakes J.W., M. A. R. Harris as S.D., J. Baxter Langley as J.D., J. G. Vohmann Steward, G. T. Linn I.G., F. Walters P.M. G.G.P. (Middlesex) Secretary. Past Masters Bros. H. A. Collington and J. Hawke. The Lodge having been opened, and the minutes confirmed, Bro. E. Seale, No. 1275, was passed to the second degree, and Bro. J. T. Phillips was raised to the third degree. A sum of £10 was voted from the funds of the Lodge to the widow of a late P.M. The Lodge was then closed, and, there being no banquet or refreshments, the brethren departed.

Hesketh Lodge, No. 896.—A meeting was held on 20th April, at the Grapes Inn, Croston. Bros. Fletcher W.M., Catterall S.W., Cottam J.W., Howarth S.D., Norris J.D., Smith D.C., Dobson Steward, Ascroft I.G., Drabble Tyler, Rigbye Secretary, Bridge Treasurer. P.M.'s Goggin, Rigbye and Ashcroft. The visitors were Bros. Gaskell and Richardson. Business transacted:—Bros. Tuson, Taylor and Hunter passed to the 2nd degree; Messrs. Matthew Arthur Forde, C.E., Maghull, and John James Smith, Surgeon, Croston, ballotted for initiation at next Lodge Meeting.

Corinthian Lodge, No. 1382.—A meeting was held on 21st of April, at the George Hotel, Cubitt Town. Bros. Joseph Carnaby W.M., Charles B. Bennett S.W., Charles Searell J.W., George Simm S.D., George Fisher J.D., Haigh Organist, David Hodges Steward, J. Delvis I.G., Wm. Grant Tyler, C. Wyatt Smith P.M. 898 Secretary, Henry Marfleet P.M. 898 and 1382 Treasurer. P.M.'s Bros. Benj. Carter, William Shayes. The visitors were Bros. Cowell 898, Willing 254, Whypherson 697, &c. The Lodge was opened, and, the minutes being confirmed, the Lodge was opened in the 2nd degree, and Bros. Gordon, Temple, Cain and Ford were passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. There being no other business the Lodge was closed.

Death of a Rutherglen Freemason in Canada.—Bro. James Adair, one of the oldest residents of Southampton, and probably the oldest Mason in the Dominion, was buried last month with Masonic honours. The deceased was made a Mason in Rutherglen Lodge, Scotland, and had the honour of sitting in the Kilwinning, or Mother Lodge of Scotland. He served through the Peninsular War in the British army. With reference to the above, we may add that our deceased brother was initiated in the Rutherglen Royal Arch Lodge, No. 116, on the 2nd of March, 1810.—*Scottish Freemasons' Magazine.*

Eighty thousand dollars have been subscribed by the Masons of Cleveland, Ohio, to erect a Masonic Temple in that city. They have purchased a lot on the north-east corner of Superior and Bond-streets, for 40,000 dols., on which to erect the Temple. The edifice is to cost 250,000.—*Masonic Jewel.*

THE DRAMA.

Tom Cobb at the St. James's.—The Opening of the Mirror Theatre.

MR. Gilbert has described his new piece as "a farcical comedy;" a farce in three acts would have been a more correct description, for the plot is wildly improbable and the incidents absurdly ridiculous. Tom Cobb is a doctor, very much in debt, lodging in the house of Major O'Fipp, an Irish adventurer, to whose daughter, Matilda, he is engaged. His friend, Whiffle, also a doctor, but in successful practice, is also in love with Matilda. Whiffle has an apparently pauper patient, whom from his ugliness and impecuniosity, he has nicknamed Tom Cobb, and on the death of this patient, he frightens the real Simon Pure, by threats of writs and creditors, into disappearing from the scene under cover of his namesake's death. Before going, Tom makes a will, leaving all his property, which apparently consists of his debts, to Matilda O'Fipp; and on the discovery of a large sum of money in the house of the sham Tom Cobb, the will of the real one is put in, and the O'Fipps take possession. Want of money compels Tom to return to his old haunts, when Whiffle, now engaged to Matilda, in his place, threatens him with prosecution for forging the will. Tom is induced to change his name to that of Major-General Arthur Fitzpatrick. A friend of Matilda's, named Carolina Effingham, the most sentimental of a very sentimental family, had long been poetically corresponding with an unseen adorer who had borne this very name, and on being introduced to Tom, she at once fixes on him as her soldier poet. A quarrel with O'Fipp brings matters to a climax; Tom's identity is disclosed, which leads to the discovery that the old miser was his grandfather, and had left some property, to which Tom is heir. Caroline professes her willingness to marry "anything that is wealthy," and everybody is satisfied. This is the outline of a piece which abounds in mirth-moving situations. The dialogue, as might be expected from Mr. Gilbert, is very bright and witty. The acting is simply perfection. Miss Litton has never been seen to such advantage as in the part of Caroline Effingham. She plays with an unconscious gravity which is in itself most amusing, and in her delivery of the mock heroic speeches she does not miss a single point. Mr. W. J. Hill is her sentimental brother, doomed to the drudgery of a lawyer's office; his semblance of well-fed martyrdom is most amusing. Mr. Royce as Tom Cobb, and Miss Charles as Matilda O'Fipp, are also extremely good. With such acting and such dialogue, *Tom Cobb* should amuse visitors to the St. James's for months to come.

Mr. Horace Wigan has pluckily attempted a task in which many have already failed. Since its opening with *Flying Scud* the Theatre in Holborn has never been a source of profit to any one of its lessees, and it is perhaps from a touch of superstition that, having completely re-decorated and re-furnished it, he has also re-christened it, and called it the Mirror. With a a lively recollection of its success at the Olympic, he has chosen the *Hidden Hand* as his opening piece. His company includes many hands of the old cast. Miss Louise Moore plays Muriel as well as ever, and Mr. Vincent is quite at home as the Old Shepherd. We must thank Mr. Wigan for the revival of a very convenient old custom, that of admission at reduced prices at nine o'clock. It is a concession to the public which other managers would do well to imitate.

REVIEWS.

All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, 67 Barbican, E.C.

The April number of *Le Monde Maçonnique*, which completes its sixteenth volume, contains, among many items of news, articles, and reviews, a sketch of Spanish Freemasonry, its rise, and the vicissitudes which have overtaken it at different periods. The article, which is from the pen of a Spanish Mason, who is well versed in the history of his country, is too long for quotation, while, on the other hand, an extract taken here and there would hardly convey a just idea of the skill with which the subject is handled. A very proper distinction is drawn in Part 2 on the subject of politics and Freemasonry, and the attempts on the lives of General Narvaez and the ex-Queen Isabella, and the risings in Madrid and Catalonia in 1846 and 1848. Apropos of these, the writer points out that while there is no doubt those who took part in these events were Masons, it is equally beyond all doubt that those events do not owe their origin to Freemasonry. Under the head of Home News is given a selection of some of the subjects which have been proposed to the various Lodges in Paris for discussion or study. These, of course, are for the most part, directly or indirectly, Masonic, but not all, some being questions of social or educational interest.

Good Words contains an excellent array of neatly written articles, and one, by his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, on the "Fallacies of Unbelief," which his Grace is most successful both in pointing out and combating. Mrs. Oliphant's "White Ladies" is advanced a few chapters, as, likewise, is Jean Ingelow's "Fated to be Free." Both these are eminently readable. Among the other contributions we have noted Part 1 of Mr. Samuel Smiles's paper, "The Story of Robert Nicoll's Life," and part of Alexander Nicholson's "The Isle of Skye." Florence S. Lees also describes, with much ability, the rise and progress of the first training school for district nurses started at Liverpool about twelve years since. The number, which closes with a paper on "Star Fishes," is not over brilliantly illustrated.

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Printed and Published for the Freemason's Chronicle Publishing Company Limited, by Brother WILLIAM WRAY MORGAN, at 67 Barbican, E.C., Saturday, 1st May 1875.

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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. I.—No. 19. SATURDAY, 8th MAY 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

THE *SATURDAY REVIEW* ON THE INSTALLATION.

RIDICULE has been somewhat illogically described as the test of truth. If it were so, Freemasonry ought to have perished long since. Some of the great masters of satire have exhausted the resources of their art upon it: it has been laughed at for its mysteries, for its symbolism, and for the uniform in which the brethren, it is supposed, love to deck themselves. Carlyle has sneered at its "pasteboard temples, and its tinsel paraphernalia," and the giants of the press have often gone out of their way to give the Order a sly dig. Yet, in spite of ridicule, Freemasonry flourishes, and nobody seems a bit the worse for all the funny sayings or harsh things which have been flung at the Craft. Masons are not proverbial for being thin skinned, and if a professional jester chooses to laugh, like a yokel through a horse collar, at what he does not understand, they are quite willing to permit him to grin to his heart's content. Our contemporary, the *Saturday Review*, in pursuance of its usual policy, has been making very merry over the Installation Ceremony, which has come like a godsend to a journal that has had little or nothing to laugh at since the Conservatives came into office. The *Saturday Review*, of course, is nothing if it is not funny, incisive and bitter. Its writers are the literary Octopi of the journalistic world, and few things of any value escape the grasp of their envenomed tentacles. Experts accustomed to its style are probably well aware that the invective of the *Saturday* is to be regarded as praise. It rarely attacks anything which is not worth attacking, and its vigorous abuse of a work of fiction, for example, is regarded by the publishing world as so much commendation. Whenever it abuses a new book the volume is sure to sell, and in America its adverse criticisms are regularly looked for by the publishing houses, which immediately reproduce any English work that is so fortunate as to draw the fire of this wonderful gall-squirt of literature. Nothing is so fatal as its praise. If it had condescended to speak in terms of high commendation of Masonry, we, for our own part, should seriously have considered the propriety of retiring from active Masonic duty. But since it has nothing but abuse to bestow upon us we are assured, if we ever needed any assurance of the kind, that Masonry is a noble institution, and well worthy of the countenance and support of all right thinking men. It has the effrontery to tell its readers that Masons are silly persons, who are much addicted to the wearing of collars, emblems and aprons, and it adds that they are afraid to display these gorgeous decorations in public lest the little boys should laugh at them. In justice to the *Saturday Review* we may perhaps remark that in this groundless assertion the skilled reader will find abundant proof of its loyalty to the reigning house. If it had called us wise, we might fairly have inferred, on the principle of contraries, that it held us to be the fools it affects to believe us to be. But, bearing in mind its peculiar idiosyncrasies, we may venture to proclaim that it does not really mean to insult His Royal Highness the Grand Master, and that it entertains the most profound and servile respect for his august brothers, who, in common with himself, have not disdained to enter the ranks of the so-called silly people who wear aprons and collars in the strict seclusion of the Lodge. The *Saturday*, in fact, knows very well that some of the wisest and most august persons in the realm are members of the Fraternity. It is painfully conscious that its praise is regarded by all honest men as libellous; and with a forbearance which does it infinite honour, it restrains its first impulse, and in generous recognition of true worth it opens the stores of its vocabulary of abuse and liberally sprinkles the best men in this country with a proper allowance of vinegar and gall. If it had condescended to patronise, we honestly believe that no conspicuous Mason could have survived the shame of the thing; but since it is only venomous, the humblest broiler may take courage and breathe freely. We are spared the last and greatest humiliation that could befall the Order, and may yet look forward to many years of honourable usefulness.

The *Saturday Review* grins heartily over its assumption that a Society pledged to secrecy should have taken the trouble to invite all the world, through the medium of the newspapers, to be present at the Installation. It assumes that after all the secret of Masonry is no secret, and that the awful veil which has hitherto enshrouded the Order has been lifted in the face of an eager and disappointed world, and the world has learned nothing. This is indeed partly true. Just so much of the proceedings of last week have been reported as could with propriety be reported to the public, and the *Saturday* knows as well as anybody that the mystic portions of the ceremonial were not touched upon by the Masonic Members of the Press who were present. If we could possibly suspect it of a sordid desire to obtain an insight into these mysteries without due initiation, we might fairly condole with it upon its disappointment. We cannot however suspect it of anything which would so ill become the cultured prigs of its staff, and we are therefore constrained to say that its rather trite reflections upon the secrets of the Order are only laboured efforts at fun. We may have our own opinion as to the quality and flavour of the jests it has fired off, but its good intentions are too patent to be misunderstood, and if we venture upon a word of serious reply we do so merely in consideration of the weakness of such of our readers as may not be fully acquainted with this brilliant specimen of English journalism. It has been our sad lot to study its pages for some years past, and we bear willing testimony to the trying efforts it has made from week to week to keep up its very questionable reputation. When everything that is good and noble in this world has been roundly abused, our old friend will have fulfilled its mission, and will then perchance sink peacefully into a benevolent old age. We trust this dreadful event is still distant. The *Saturday Review* in the character of a kindly and impartial mentor would be too terrible an infliction for any sane man to endure. It must however look out for its laurels, brilliant young rivals are already in the field, and we fancy that its mixture of vinegar and gall has lost much of its old pungency.

Some of our brethren who imagine a reviewer's words have the usual current value, may possibly be annoyed at the assertion that we are fond of childish parade, and that there is nothing solid or valuable in Masonry. We ourselves take this statement as a compliment, and, for the benefit of weak brethren only, we remind our critic that an Order which disburses upwards of £30,000 annually in Masonic Charity really devotes some of its leisure to serious work. We may further add that if it were worth while to wear the insignia of the Order in public, or to indulge in any parade of our principles, the brethren would by no means be afraid of exciting the laughter of fools. The leaders of Masonry, however, wisely leave displays of this kind to the Friendly Societies, and are too seriously intent upon the solid business of the Craft to care for the public show of finery.

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We are all quite aware of the fact that people can be charitable and good in plain every-day attire, and we may inform the *Saturday*, if it really needs the information, that a great portion of the vast sum which is annually devoted to charitable purposes, is subscribed without any of the official displays which have called forth so many of its compliments. Our chief dignitaries, whose titles have afforded the *Saturday Review* so much simulated amusement, are men who would be the first to scout and laugh to scorn any useless parade of ribbons and medals; and the fact that they condescend to wear the insignia of the Order on State occasions must be regarded as sufficient proof that some solid meaning underlies them. If Masons are all fools, some of the illustrious men whose names adorn the page of history should have worn the cap and bells which the *Saturday Review* so gracefully holds up to our vision. Frederick the Great, the Duke of Wellington, Archbishop Howley, to say nothing of noblemen and gentlemen of the highest culture, were members of the Craft. It is really kind of the *Saturday Review* to take off the head-dress which fits it so well, and offer it as a suitable adornment for our silly heads. We really cannot be so cruel as to rob it of an article of attire for the exclusive privilege of wearing which it has laboured so strenuously during the last twenty years. It would be nothing without the congenial jingle of its own bells, and if it still fancies that its fool's bâton is the omnipotent wand of a great literary authority, we shall not be harsh enough to destroy the illusion.

OUR GRAND OFFICERS.

A FEW particulars as to certain of our Grand Officers may not be uninteresting to our readers.

The M.W. Pro. Grand Master, the Right Honourable the Earl of Carnarvon, was born, according to *Debrett*, in the year 1831, and succeeded his father, the third Earl, in 1849. He was educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxon, where he took his degree of B.A. in 1852, with first class honours in classics; the honorary degree of D.C.L. being conferred upon him in 1859. The Earl was Under-Secretary in 1858-9, and Secretary of State for the Colonies in 1866-7, to which latter office he was re-appointed on the accession to power last year of the second Disraeli administration. He has been High Steward of Oxford University since 1859, was Major in the Hants Yeomanry Cavalry 1862-8, and is a Dep.-Lieut. and J.P. for Hants, as well as Constable of Carnarvon Castle. The serious affliction which his Lordship recently sustained is still fresh in the memories of our readers, and still commands all their sympathies. As to his Masonic career, the noble Earl was initiated in the Westminster and Keystone Lodge, No. 10, on 5th February 1856. He was installed W.M. of this Lodge on the 20th May of the year following, in the presence of the Earl of Zetland, our then M.W.G.M., Lord Panmure D.G.M., and about two hundred distinguished brethren. He has since become a subscribing member of the Apollo University Lodge, No. 357, Oxford. He became D.G.M. in 1870, and also holds the Pro. Grand Mastership in Somersetshire. The Earl is also Pro. Grand First Principal of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, M.W. Past Grand Master of Mark Master Masons, as well as Prov. G.M. of the same for Somersetshire, and M.P. Sovereign Grand Commander of the Ancient and Accepted Rite.

Lord Skelmersdale, born 1837, succeeded his grandfather, the first Baron, in 1853. He was educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxon; was a Lord-in-Waiting to Her Majesty 1866-8, and was appointed Captain of Her Majesty's Yeomen of the Guard in 1874. He is a J.D. and D.L. of Lancashire, and since 1860 Captain of the Lancashire Yeomanry Hussars. In 1871 he was chosen one of the "whips" for the Conservative party. His Lordship was initiated in the Apollo University Lodge, in 1856, and besides being D.G.M., is Provincial Grand Master for the Western Division of Lancashire, and has this week been appointed H. of Grand Chapter.

The Marquis of Hamilton, Senior G.W., is the eldest son of His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, G.M. of Ireland, and was born in the year 1838. He was educated at Harrow and Christ Church, having taken his B.A. in 1860, and his M.A. in 1865. He has been Hon. Col. of the Prince of Wales's own Donegal Militia since 1860, was appointed a Lord of the Bed Chamber to His Royal Highness in 1866, assisted to invest (as bearer of a portion of the insignia) His Majesty Christian IX. of Denmark with the Order of the Garter, and accompanied the Prince of Wales to Russia in 1866. He is a J.P. for Co. Donegal, and has sat in the House of Commons for that county since 1860. His Lordship has the Danish Order of the Dannebrog, the Russian Order of St. Anne, and the Austrian Order of the Iron Crown. The Marquis was initiated in the Apollo University Lodge, in 1857.

The Right Honourable D. Stone, Lord Mayor of London, who has just been appointed Junior Grand Warden, was initiated in the month of February 1851, in the Tuscan Lodge, No. 14, and resigned his membership in October 1857. As our readers will remember, his Lordship was recently elected an honorary member of the Great City Lodge, No. 1428.

We hope to find space in future issues to follow up these short sketches of the most prominent members of Grand Lodge.

COMMERCIAL INTEGRITY.

THE moralist who cares to lecture society upon its shortcomings may find much scope for scathing invective in the revelations of the inner life of commercial society with which the newspapers of the day are teeming. He might tell us, if homilies were not out of fashion, that middle class people are rapidly falling away from the old standard of integrity which was reverenced by our grandfathers, and he might rail to his heart's content against the eager seeking for wealth which is the characteristic of the age, against the frivolity of society generally, and against the manifest disregard for good faith and truth which prevails so largely amongst commercial men. Perhaps he would not be listened to if he were to preach from so trite a text as that which heads this article. Or if he were to compel attention, by eccentricity of manner, or the mere force of unadorned eloquence, he might fairly surmise that his moralising would be forgotten or ignored by the time the sun rose upon the next business day. An impatience of mere lecturing, as well as a contempt for the so-called humdrum ethics of the past, is a common failing of the men of the day, who affect to think that success justifies any policy, and will condone any breach of the moral code. We do not intend to set ourselves up as the correctors of the errors of our time, nor are we willing to assume the part of a priggish censor of failings which have grown with the nation's growth, and which, if not corrected, may sap, at no distant day, those broad principles upon which society stands. Yet while disclaiming the *rôle* of the moralist, we would venture to direct attention to the fact that integrity, in its worldly sense, is the key-stone of the structure of a nation's commercial greatness, and we may hint that there are signs abroad which would appear to show that the time is approaching when no man's word will be taken as his bond. Let us say what we will, or disguise the facts to which we allude as we may, it is patent to every observer of the signs of the times that a respect for truth, for its own sake, is not among the crowning virtues of some of the business men of this or any other city in the kingdom. Men are compelled to give in their adhesion to scientific truths, and no more think of questioning the facts which the chemist or the astronomer brings to light than they would think of questioning the validity of the laws of gravitation. But moral truth, in all its wide ramifications, appears to be losing its hold upon the minds of all classes. If men do not actually lie, in the vulgar acceptation of the word, they do not scruple, in business matters at least, to indulge in interested exaggerations which they know do not fairly characterise the transactions in which they are engaged. And if a qualm of conscience ever comes over them they are ready enough to console themselves with the plausible fallacies of a commercial casuistry, which in its way is worse than anything ever invented by the schoolmen or the Jesuits. A man will defend a statement which appears very like a falsehood, on the plea that exaggeration, puffing, and the other arts of the shop or the warehouse are necessary in business. He will tell you that he might as well close his shop at once if he were to tell the honest truth to his customers; and he will go to church on Sunday, after a week spent in pushing worthless goods, with no conception that tricks of this kind are incompatible

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with maintenance of any religious principles. A trade falsehood is regarded as no greater moral enormity than the conventional "not at home" of a person who is too busily engaged to receive a friend. It is forgotten that in the case cited no one is deceived by the subterfuge. We all understand that the phrase really means that the party is engaged, and cannot be seen, but it is quite impossible to understand the reckless statements which a man feels justified in making when he is selling his goods. If he passes off an article of inferior quality for one of the very best, we have no means of detecting the fraud. If he tells us his profit is a farthing a yard or a dozen, or that he loses by the transaction, we have no means of testing his accuracy, and his statements, if contrary to fact, are, to all intents and purposes, if judged by our old-fashioned standard of morality, falsehoods. It would, however, be a monstrous injustice to hold up the retail trader as the chief transgressor against the moral code. A section of the mercantile classes in the City is utterly reckless as to the truth of the statements which are put forth for the purpose of floating a company or getting up a foreign loan. Recent revelations have opened the eyes of the public to the sort of morality which rules the minds of "eminently respectable men," and the knowledge we have gained is by no means edifying. It is a shock to some of us to find that some at least of the men who are respected and looked up to in the City are not ashamed to put their names to prospectuses which are mere baits to catch the unwary, and have no misgivings when widows and orphans, who have been caught by the specious promises, have been brought to the verge of ruin. The getting up of bubble companies has actually developed into a profession, and there are persons in our midst who are famed for the skill with which they can prove to the public that an exhausted copper mine, for example, may, by judicious management, be made to pay a splendid dividend upon the capital invested in it. It is no justification of this sort of thing to say that the public are to blame for trusting too much to specious promises, and an array of respectable names. The public, or at least that section of it to which the bait is thrown, is usually utterly ignorant of the merest rudiments of business. Thousands of people who might learn much from the recent revelations in the press, are no wiser and will never be wiser, simply because they do not study the events of the day with sufficient attention. It is no easy thing, for example, to discover whether a foreign State, competing in the English market for a loan, is solvent or not. Nine-tenths of the non-commercial classes, and many of those who are engaged in business, are ready to believe that an investment must be good if a dividend is guaranteed by the responsible ministers of a government. Some knowledge of history, and of past and contemporary politics, is necessary before an investor can form a sound opinion upon a question of this kind. But how few possess this knowledge; public writers, who may be supposed to be well informed, are restrained by the law of libel from telling the world what they know. Investors of a certain class are as the mercy of the projectors of loans and bubble companies, and we are not sanguine that any legislation will ever be of any utility in restraining the poetic fervour of some of the men of this stamp. It is, however, in the power of society to place its ban upon the persons who venture, for mere gain, to palter with truth. If we merely smile at the sharp practice of those who stake their brains against the cash in the pockets of "gullible" capitalists, we are encouraging the misdeeds which ought to be frowned down. Society should sternly set its face against the tricks of trade and commerce which are now so common. Every honest man should be interested in stamping out a lie whenever he meets with one. Until the public conscience be awakened, preaching will be useless. If an English merchant's word is to go forth to the ends of the earth as the very seal and stamp of truth, we must resolutely punish, with all the severities of social outlawry, those whose evil practices are rapidly lowering the good name and fame of the nation in the eyes of the world.

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THE PRESS AND THE INSTALLATION.

From BELL'S WEEKLY MESSENGER, *1st May.*

SUCH a scene, as that which was beheld last Wednesday within the walls of the Albert Hall, by not less than nine thousand men and Masons, it may most confidently be asserted, was never before witnessed in this country, and, in all human probability, in no other country of the world—the Installation of His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales, as the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of the ancient and mysterious Fraternity of Freemasons. It may not be generally known that His Royal Highness, so long as seventeen years ago, was induced to feel an interest in the Masonic Order, because of his having received such information, as it was lawful to convey, from an old and experienced member of the Grand Lodge, with whom he accidentally became acquainted, and to determine, whenever he should reach mature age, to become a member of the Craft. We have this fact, however, upon authority, which we believe to be indisputable; but, whether this were so or not, it is certain that, so soon as the Prince of Wales became of mature age, he sought admission into the Craft, and, most wisely, used the opportunity of his visiting Sweden to obtain the benefit of initiation and advancement at the hands of the then most learned, energetic, and experienced Mason in all Europe, His Majesty the late King of that country. On the return of his Royal Highness to England, with that good taste which invariably marks his conduct, he by no means paraded his admission into the Order, and, least of all, did he seek for any such pre-eminence, as that to which his high and exalted rank entitled him. It is no violation of the secrets of the Craft to state, that, whenever the Prince was induced to visit a Lodge, and to witness its working, he maintained, most scrupulously and persistently, one of the grandest principles of the Order—that of perfect equality—he, the highest person of the country next the Throne, setting a bright and noble example to all who obtain the privilege of association in the practice of Masonic principles and duties. So positively did the Prince of Wales—whilst always maintaining that dignity of demeanour, combined with affability, which endears him to all, who have the privilege of personal acquaintance with him, and for which he has rendered himself universally beloved—manifest his strict adherence to the time-honoured principles of the Craft, that the desire for his becoming its ruler began universally to prevail. With a still further adherence to Masonic principles—on this desire being made known to him—he most modestly declined to assume that position, to which he was justly entitled, and was content to accept the rank of a Past Grand Master, whilst the then Grand Master, the Marquis of Ripon, remained at the head of the Order. In that capacity His Royal Highness nobly and liberally supported the great Masonic Charitable Institutions, and gave proofs to the whole Fraternity that he was actuated by the determination to uphold and maintain its brightest jewels. When the Marquis of Ripon seceded from the Church of England, and became a pervert to that of Rome, the very first indication that nobleman manifested of the thraldom to which he had been so misled as to submit himself, was his resignation of the Grand Mastership of Masons. That resignation was accepted by the whole Craft with dignity, mingled with regret—with regret that such a course had been determined upon; with dignity, in that no outward manifestation of displeasure, which could be taken hold of by those, who had worked, so successfully, upon his mind, was apparent. Lord Ripon's resignation being accepted, every eye naturally looked towards the Prince of Wales as that Grand Master's immediate successor, and the desire having been expressed to His Royal Highness that this should be, he at once accepted the office, with every manifestation of a desire to discharge its functions earnestly, faithfully and judiciously. The office of the Grand Master is annually elective, the appointment, and re-appointment, being in the hands of the lawful representatives of every Craft Lodge in the Kingdom. At the nomination of His Royal Highness in March last, he was both unanimously and enthusiastically elected, and on Wednesday the necessary and time-honoured benefit of Installation, as we have said, took place under such circumstances as can never be forgotten by those of the Fraternity privileged to be present, who came from the four cardinal points of the country to participate therein.

All that took place at the Albert Hall last Wednesday—so far as the outer world is permitted to know—will be found fully recorded in another column, and need not, therefore, be here repeated. But, inasmuch as some persons may be inclined to ridicule the whole of that day's proceedings, and others may be disposed to apply the term "absurd" to the maintenance of a secret Society in this nineteenth century; and, moreover, as much has been written by many of our contemporaries about Masonry, not only in connection with this event, but of its secret arts and hidden mysteries, which are not only fallacious, but, in some degree, mischievous, it may not be out of place, at such a time, for us to state so much as it is lawful to disclose, concerning what Masonry really is, and what it is not.

It is impossible for any one, who is in the least degree informed respecting the working of a Lodge, to doubt that Masonic traditions, arts, and mysteries are derived from the building of the Temple at Jerusalem. When the Temple, however, was reared—it is manifest to every well-instructed Craftsman—the circumstances attendant upon that event itself, and the ceremonies which accompanied it, were not the origin, but rather the development of the "order, regularity and beauty," which had preceded it. "The volume of the Sacred Law" relates that the Temple was built after the pattern of the Tabernacle, which had been erected by the Great Law Giver in the wilderness, from whom unquestionably—instructed as he was, by Divine tuition, and "learned" as he also was "in all the arts of the Egyptians"—the form and fashion of that "moveable house" had its primary emanation. But if Moses had become versed in the secret arts and hidden mysteries which on every side surrounded him, it is but fair to assume that, even to times much earlier than those in which he lived, the birth of those "mysteries and arts" is to be

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assigned. Those who have had the great advantage of visiting the Eastern districts of our globe—and especially Egypt and India—must have perceived that the glorious fanes which still exist in those lands—monuments as they are both of skill and majesty—were reared originally for the purpose of offering adoration to the Most High upon a settled plan, and after a regular form and pattern that rarely were departed from. The lofty Pyramids and the other stupendous structures of Egypt, no less than the gorgeous Bhuddist temples of India, tell of events and circumstances which, in all human probability, had their origin at the period of the great dispersion, when, although the language of the nations became diversified, each took with its respective generation certain substituted symbols, whereby in times to come they could and would be recognised; so that even now, in this nineteenth century of our era, wherever the foot of man treads, or the investigation of inquiry is carried, sure proofs and evidences are met with that enable Masons to discover as Brethren some few, at least, who are bound together by the strictest bonds of fraternal communication. If the "cloud capped canopy" cover no building, in which the rites, that still exist and prevail, are celebrated, there at least such signs, tokens and words are used, as make it impossible to doubt of secret arts and solemn ceremonies having a most positive resemblance and purpose; just as it is impossible to enter any one of our own Cathedral Churches, or other sacred buildings of a long past period, without at once perceiving that they were planned and completed upon one great principle, the main features of which are identical whatever may be the annexations and adornments, with which they have been accompanied. Never can the true and faithful Craftsman enter, or worship, within such "hallowed fanes," without bending with gratitude to the Great Master of all, and acknowledging that "order" here, as well as everywhere besides in the Universe, "is Heaven's first law." But should doubt intrude concerning such facts, the Masons' marks on every portion of the building, deeply indented here and there, remain to indicate and prove that, whether it be heathen temple or Christian fane, it had its origin from that mystic Craft, which, then operative no less than speculative, is now adopted—almost exclusively—in the latter sense. Independently, however, of other proofs in this direction, the recent discoveries at Jerusalem, made under the superintendence of worthy and well skilled English Brethren, go conclusively to show that, there at least, the evidences of this theory is as positive as it is multifarious.

It is constantly asked by the outside world, "What is the use of Freemasonry?"—Those who have not been initiated, constantly express doubt as to its utility, whilst they are often inclined to ridicule its origin—as has been witnessed in several of the leading articles of the daily journals, which have referred to the event of Wednesday last. One of the chief causes for this inquiry undoubtedly arises from the fact, that speculative Masonry has, for the most part, accomplished the work for which it was primarily devised. In the dark ages of the world, Masonry was the great pioneer of civilisation, the mother of the arts and sciences, the sole means whereby greater light than universally prevailed was diffused over the face of earth and water. With the growth of that civilisation its principles fell into comparative abeyance, until, at last, its work in this direction being accomplished, it has ceased to be regarded as the great author and means of human progress. In many parts of Europe it still, in a measure, retains much of its ancient prestige in this direction—pre-eminently so in Sweden, where it was greatly to the advantage of the Prince of Wales to have been brought to light. Here, however, in our own land—where the claims for superior cleverness and enlarged views upon every subject of modern thought, or with reference to the teaching of antiquity, have become, as it were, a fashion—not only has the outside world been induced to suppose that Masonry is little else than a Benefit Society, but that it is merely the means for frequent convivial *réunions* under the name of, and for the diffusion of, "Charity,"—an idea which very many, who have been admitted into the Order, and failed to discern anything beyond such impressions, have helped much too largely to increase. This result, indeed, as it can but be believed, has of late years solely arisen from an indiscriminate admission of members into the Order, and from an influence that has induced quantity rather than quality to be considered. Yet, in spite of such a violation of the ancient landmarks, however much the members of the Order may be ridiculed, they can still show what Masonry does, and can do, in the way of "Brotherly love, relief and truth," although they can no longer claim for it that high and prominent place it once occupied for the maintenance and advancement of civilisation. War's fierce assaults between Frank and Teuton on the soil of France have once again been the means of proving that all is not barren in Masonic profession; for even those, who were then locked together in the deadliest strife—on the discovery of their Brotherhood being made—again and again saved each other's lives, took care of one another, and acted on the square truly as Brethren when the fight had ended, whether they had been conquered, or were the conquerors. Just, indeed, as in the great Indian Mutiny, every woman and child who took refuge in the Masonic Lodge rooms, were preserved from danger, violation, and death, simply because very many Mahommedans and Hindoos, who were in revolt against our countrymen, were members of the Fraternity, and respected their most solemn obligation; whilst the rest of the native population looked upon those Lodge rooms as of a Fetish character, which would bring disaster to themselves, if their sanctity were violated.

It is the earnest hope—a desire ever to be remembered in the posture of the daily supplication of every good and faithful Brother—that Freemasonry may yet thrive and flourish—although the needs of its existence is now by no means so great, important, or invaluable as it was in days of yore, so as to give proofs incalculable, and evidences unnumbered, of its being something more than a myth, much more than an empty name. No one, we believe, with the slightest particle of feeling in his composition, can ever listen to, or take part in, the sacred rites and noble ceremonies of Freemasonry without being solemnly impressed with the deep-toned revelation of the truths they enunciate. Again and again—we have it upon the very best authority—have those ceremonies had the most beneficial—it may be said, even saving and redeeming—effects upon the profligate, whilst they have ever armed "The just and upright man" with the best inducements to stand fast in his integrity, to help and support his brethren in every time of need, and to do his duty in the face of all trials and calamities in whatsoever state of life the Most High may have been pleased to place him.

Devoutly is it to be both desired and hoped, that such principles may never die out, but that they may rather live and flourish for the benefit of untold generations yet to come, and more especially that so auspicious an event as that of Wednesday last, may tend still more positively to promote the glorious principles of "loyalty and charity," which it has ever been, still continues to be, and always will be the predominant wish of every true and faithful Mason's heart to promote, extend, and increase.

From the SATURDAY REVIEW, *1st May.*

THE Freemasons have met, paraded, cheered the Prince of Wales, dined together in various circles of mysterious honour, and gone home happy, as far as one can judge from the melodious utterances which were heard in the streets adjoining the hostelries where they broke up for the night. Some of them perhaps may not have been quite so happy next morning, but heroic natures have consolation for headaches in the proud consciousness of great duties performed at any personal sacrifice. A published account of the hidden ceremonies of a fraternity sworn to secrecy obviously carries its own comment with it, and it is to be feared that the newspapers must have suborned agents who, if the old rules of this society were in force, would by this time have been found strewn about with daggers in their hearts, each with a paper attached to it inscribed "A warning to traitors." If these miscreants have any chance of a trial before execution, the best plea we can suggest for them is that the more the secret practices of the Freemasons are exposed the less likelihood will there be of any mystery being discovered. Possibly, however, it may turn out that the reports in the papers were simply fiction. Any one who happened to be in the South Kensington district after noon on Wednesday last would have seen streams of respectable-looking men clad in black, with white ties, which set off to advantage their generally rubicund countenances, moving towards the Albert Hall. Nothing could be more decorous and inoffensive than their appearance, but a watchful eye could not fail to observe that each carried in his hand either a paper parcel, or a japanned tin box, or a bag, or that his coat-tail pockets bulged in an unnatural and suspicious manner. These were, in fact, the higher ranks of the Masonic body on their way to their rendezvous, their superiors having issued a decree that out-of-doors they should dispense with decorations, and endeavour, as far as they could, to look merely like ordinary people—an effort in which, we should say from our own observation, most of them perfectly succeeded. They walked in the usual way on their legs, no magical influence interposed to prevent the dust from settling on their boots, they wiped the perspiration from their steaming brows, and partook of refreshment at convenient drinking-bars exactly as the common run of humanity has been seen to do on other occasions when the weather was hot and the sense of self-importance somewhat suffocating. Beyond the gates of the Hall, however, the eyes of the profane world could not follow them. Once or twice, it is said, there was a sudden explosion at the doors, followed by the violent discharge of an unhappy person, coatless and bareheaded, who was understood to have been, like the Claimant, a victim of insufficient evidence of identity in the character he had assumed.

As to what passed within the mysterious inner precincts, it is of course impossible to obtain any authentic intelligence. A Mason who is capable of betraying to the public the secret rites which, by every tie of honour and obedience, he is bound to conceal, is obviously unworthy of confidence, and is much more likely to be taking advantage of the reader's simplicity than telling the truth. On the other hand, it is possible, as we have before suggested, that the accounts of the proceedings in the Albert Hall are a pure invention of unscrupulous editors. The *Times* gives a somewhat prosaic version of the supposed doings, and the *Daily News* is guardedly archæological. In the *Daily Telegraph* we naturally find what we expected to find. The lively imagination which has before now dragged from his lair the old savage of the desert, and to which we have more recently been indebted for the fight between Brummy and the Dog, is again equal to the occasion. Any one, it is suggested, who "has visited the Coliseum by moonlight"—this, by the way, is an easier feat for a *Telegraph* writer, who has always the moon at command without reference to the almanack, than for other people—"and gazed upon its broken walls, as the silvery beams have danced and flickered in the grim ruins, and pictured to himself the majesty of the place when in Rome's best days it was filled with pleasure seekers, the gallant courtiers and fair dames of the Eternal City," and all the rest of the well-known jargon, will have a faint idea of the splendour of the scene of Wednesday in the Albert Hall. And what, it may be asked, was this wonderful sight? "Tier after tier of seats, neatly divided off by gangways," "above the tiers, boxes with rows of five deep," and filled with "seven thousand brothers clad in collar, glove, and apron, sitting in rows." It rather spoils the reference to Rome's best days to find that no dames are present, but the writer seems to think that, after all, the only good of women is to infuse a little colour into society by their clothes, and that men, if gorgeously arrayed, answer the purpose just as well. "With scarcely an exception they wore collars of brightest blue, gauntlets of similar colour, and the aprons." "On their breasts, one and all, a thousand jewels glitter in the rays of the sun." These jewels are, it seems, "the reward of upright and worthy conduct in office," and are "of purest gold, curious in device, as often as not boasting emeralds or rubies,"—more often perhaps, we may suspect, imitations in glass—"and always making a brave

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show on the breasts of those who wear them. The uniform of a provincial grand officer is exceptionally gorgeous; it is of the darkest blue, edge with gold laced fringe and embroidered with emblems, and includes an imperial collar, with pendant trinkets. A Grand Steward blazes in crimson collar and apron." All these together made up "lines of crimson and gold, dark blue and gold, light blue and silver, bejewelled breasts and countless insignia—all melting one into the other, and blending and filling the vast Hall with a blaze of colour." Then there was a grand procession of the chief dignitaries of Masonry through the Hall, the Prince of Wales was led in, took the oaths kneeling, and was invested with the insignia of the supreme office in the Craft. Lord Carnarvon, as Pro Grand Master, made a speech in which he extolled Freemasonry for its human sympathies and charitable deeds; the Prince replied; and after endless presentations, a couple of hours had been spent, and the ceremony is over. In the evening there were dinners of the various Lodges, more childish parade, and empty talk. But the "blaze of colour" was evidently the great object of the function.

It is not yet known what the Pope thinks of this singular demonstration, or whether on Wednesday last the floors of the Vatican shook with subterranean convulsions, plainly indicating the agencies at work. It is extremely unlikely, however, that His Holiness is so simple as to be mystified by the inventions of the newspapers. He will reason out the matter in his own mind, and will find it impossible to believe that a multitude of intelligent and educated Englishmen should come together from all parts of the country, and put themselves in such a state of excitement, for no other reason than to strut about for an hour or two in mystic privacy, dressed in gaudy clothes which they are ashamed to wear in the streets for fear of the laughter of little boys. The English, he will say, are a sensible, practical race, and there must surely be something behind all this which has a real and important meaning, and which is purposely hidden out of the way. It is impossible not to see how much is to be said in favour of this view. Nothing can be more profoundly amazing than the proceedings of the Freemasons as described in the newspapers. We are asked to believe that all these people turned out merely to look at each other, and to hear two or three vapid and utterly meaningless speeches. There is no reasonable person, not a Mason, who can have read the newspapers on Thursday morning without wondering what all this fuss could really have been about. It would appear that the curiosity which has lately been excited by anticipations of this great function has led to the enrolment of a large number of new brethren, and it would be interesting to know what are now their impressions of the mysterious world into which they have been introduced. When we turn to the daily journals for a solution of the marvel, we do not obtain much help from their oracular utterances. The *Times* traces it to the "singular passion in human nature for anything in the form of order, association, and discipline;" but a taste for being called "Grand," or "Right Worshipful," and wearing tinsel trinkets such as would equally gladden the Sandwich Islanders, would seem to have also something to do with it. There is perhaps not much chance of foreign Governments adopting the recommendation of the *Times* to encourage Freemasonry as a security for the State. In this country "Charity and Loyalty" may be believed to be the essential principles of the Order, and there can be no doubt that the members are well-meaning enough. But it might be rash to expect that secret societies, if freely tolerated, would necessarily produce equally innocuous results in countries which are politically more volcanic. The reason why Freemasons in England are so harmless may be suspected to be simply that they do not mean anything in particular except a desire to combine conviviality with fine clothes and big names, and an affectation of charitable sympathy which chiefly finds vent in frequent banquets. What would be simply dissipation with anybody else is thus glorified as a virtue. The *Daily News*, after a great deal of Egyptian and other ancient lore, arrives at the conclusion that some people join the Freemasons for the sake of getting something out of them, but that the source of its fascinations is mainly an "innate love of symbolism for its own sake." The *Standard* repeatedly asks itself what can be the mysterious principle of vitality which keeps Masonry going, and does not seem very clear as to the answer. All this doubt and perplexity, however, are not surprising when it is remembered that the late Duke of Sussex, who for many years bent his gigantic intellect to the study of the mystery, was once heard to say that he doubted whether anybody really understood Freemasonry except himself and perhaps another man.

On the whole, the simplest explanation is perhaps, as often happens, the best. Nothing can be more natural than that Masonry should be particularly flourishing during a period when the great object of every one is to try to mark himself off from the common ruck of humanity by some badge of distinction, however trumpery or trivial. Anybody can be a Freemason who is of decent character and will pay a moderate subscription, and thereupon he finds himself hanging on at the tip of a tail that leads up at the other end to the Royal Family and the highest of the aristocracy, with the prospect that, with due diligence, he may himself one day become a Grand something or other, and wear no end of gorgeous tassels and jewels. A similar ambition is at the bottom of the Foresters, Odd Fellows, Convivial Buffaloes, and other working-men clubs; and even when external decorations are dispensed with, we may trace the influence of the same passion in that eager competition for the letters of scientific societies to stick at the end of a name which goes on among people to whom science is as much a mystic puzzle as Masonry. In another direction, the various classes of tectotalers are held together by the power of badges and titles. After all speculation has been exhausted, Freemasonry turns out to be a very common-place affair in the midst of its pretensions and parade. It is quite possible for people to be thoroughly loyal and charitable in a plain every-day way, and in their every-day clothes. But the charm of a secret order is that the members lull themselves into the delightful belief that they are somehow of a superior caste to the rest of the world, with a monopoly of special virtues. "Knowledge comes, but wisdom lingers," and notwithstanding the spread of education, there is probably always pretty much the same amount of folly in the world, only it sometimes changes the channel by which it finds vent. The best that can be said in behalf of the body which has just been exhibiting itself is that a mob of Freemasons is more harmless than a mob of Kenealyites, but the ruling principle of self-assertion is pretty much the same in each case. Nobody has anything to say against the members of the "great and ancient Order" enjoying themselves in this way, or with any amount of babyish bedizenment and make-believe, but for their own sakes it is a pity that they are not so mysterious as they might be.

FRENCH VIEWS OF FREEMASONRY.

From the ECHO.

Our Paris Correspondent writes:—Friday Evening.—The Installation of the Prince of Wales as Grand Master of Freemasonry, which is duly reported by the French papers, has brought into prominence here a pamphlet about the Order written a few weeks ago, by Mgr. Dupanloup. The Bishop of Orleans contends, in this last Ultramontane diatribe, that Freemasonry is not only the radical negation of Christianity, but also of all kinds of religion, as well as of social order, political liberty, and universal peace; and he winds up this extraordinary opinion by calling upon the State to put down the Order as speedily as possible. The clerical organs quoted the pamphlet with great *éclat*, but unfortunately they, as well as the Bishop himself, in the bigoted blindness of their Ultramontane zeal, overlooked one or two simple facts which alone constitute a convincing refutation of the absurd and sweeping denunciations indulged in. They forgot that the most distinguished personages in France, from Marshal MacMahon downwards, were Freemasons. Exceptions might be taken to these persons on religious grounds, but it would be difficult even to the Ultramontane Jesuits to made them out revolutionists, as Mgr. Dupanloup pretends. However, a still more disagreeable truth had yet to be learnt. The inauguration of Berryer's statue at Marseilles came off, and naturally the clerical prints indulge in warm eulogies of the Legitimist advocate. Well, they had barely recovered from their joy over the event, when, lo and behold! they find out that Berryer himself was also a Freemason! And now, as if the above were not bitterness and mortification enough, they see the Heir-Apparent of England chosen as Grand Master of the Order which they represent as a secret society of Communists and Socialists, plotting the moral and material annihilation of the human race! Verily, their cup of deception is full, and no wonder they are silent to-day. The *Rappel* remarks:—"*Voilà* the future King of England excommunicated twice over—first as a Protestant heretic, and next as a Freemason." The *Débats* says:—"We can understand the joy of the English Freemasons; their last Grand Master having suddenly abandoned them for the cause of Roman Catholicism, they determined to place the high post in a family which runs no risk of being converted to the Roman religion. The means are ingenious, and English Freemasonry may henceforth live in peace without any fear of suddenly losing their own chief." *La France* observes:—"The Prince of Wales has become one of the successors of King Solomon as Grand Master of Freemasonry. His speech on the occasion strikes us as very pale and little in harmony with the unusual display of coloured ribbon and Masonic insignia."

BRO. CONSTABLE'S DRAWING.

THIS event, which has been looked forward to most anxiously by our Masonic brethren, took place on Wednesday evening, at the White Hart, Abchurch Lane, when eighteen Life Governorships for the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls were duly drawn for, and appropriated to the successful candidates, as under:—

No. of Ticket	Purchased by
133.	Mrs. J. L. Mather, 5a King-street, Finsbury, E.C.
226.	James Warner, 61 Chancery-lane, E.C.
430.	Jabez Garrett, 13 Bread-street, E.C.
582.	George Downing, Brixton.
776.	Benj. T. Hammond, Jamaica-street, Stepney.
1006.	Wm. Evans, Grove-road, Wallasey, Cheshire.
1276.	N. Gluckstein, 127 Brixton-road.
1326.	Edgar Halestrap, 12 Little Moorfields.
1512.	R. Jennings, J.D. Royal Albert, 907.
2049.	Brownrigg Lodge of Unity, 1424, Chatham.
2156.	N. E. Jauralde, 9 Coleridge-road, Holloway.
2395.	Staff Sergeant W. J. Parish, St. Helena.
2603.	Chalmers I. Paton, 115 Princes-street, Edinburgh.
2820.	John K. Stead, 39 Great Tower-street, E.C.
3085.	W. Brown, 99 High-street, Marylebone.
3137.	T. M. Rigg, Sheerness.
3231.	Ed. J. Scars, 14 Jerrard-street, Lewisham.
3623.	E. Wilson, 78 Lime-street, Liverpool.

The arrangements were most perfect, and gave the greatest satisfaction to all assembled. We congratulate Bro. Constable upon the success which has attended his efforts.

CHINESE CARVING.

FOR Sale, an elaborately carved Set of Ivory Chessmen. The Kings stand 8½ inches high, the other pieces in proportion. Knights and Pawns on horseback, all mounted on stands, with eccentric bells. Can be seen, and full particulars obtained, on application to W. W. MORGAN, 67 Barbican.—*Adet.*

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REVIEWS.

All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, 67 Barbican, E.C.

Historical Sketch of Concordia Lodge, No. 67, Free and Accepted Masons. With an Introductory Sketch of the Origin of Freemasonry in Pennsylvania. By Clifford P. MacCalla M.A. W.M. of Lodge No. 67. Philadelphia: Masonic Publishing Company, 237-9 Dock Street. 1875.

HAVING so recently noticed the *Dedication Memorial of the New Masonic Temple, Philadelphia*, it will suffice, as regards this short introduction on Freemasonry in Pennsylvania, if we state that Bro. MacCalla adopts, with a very natural pride, the view taken by the compilers of that most interesting volume, that the Provincial Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania existed anterior to the date that has hitherto been assigned to the first establishment of the Craft in North America. While, however, we reserve to ourselves the right to analyse the evidence brought forward in support of this view, we feel constrained to admit that the data furnished are of great, if not conclusive, value. The question is of great interest to the whole Craft, yet the solution of the difference more immediately affects the rival claims of the Province of Pennsylvania on the one hand, and that of New England on the other. However, the case, as set forth in Bro. C. MacCalla's little pamphlet, as in the more imposing *Dedication Memorial*, is stated with great fairness.

Passing, then, to the sketch of Concordia Lodge, No. 67, we learn that the charter of this Lodge is dated 26th August 1795, and was granted by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania during the Grand Mastership of Bro. William Ball, Bro. Thomas Armstrong being Grand Secretary. This Grand Lodge worked after the constitutions of the Grand Lodge of all England (Ancients), the former Provincial Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, according to the modern constitutions, having ceased to exist about 1778. The first officers of the Lodge, named in the warrant, were Bro. Andrew Bamm M.D. W.M.; Bro. Henry Voight S.W.; and Bro. George Willig J.W., the Lodge being authorised to be held in Philadelphia, or within five miles of it. The minutes are contained in five large volumes, commencing with vol. 2; vol. 1, which contained the records from its origin to 9th May 1806, being lost or destroyed. Bro. Andrew Bamm was installed W.M. at the quarterly communication of Grand Lodge, held on 7th September 1795, and the Lodge held its first meeting on 12th of the same month, the W.M. installing his officers. There were present *five* brethren. Up to 9th May 1806, it appears, from the records of Grand Lodge, that 117 candidates were initiated, and 13 brethren admitted to membership, giving a total of 130, or an average of over 11 additions per annum. From 1806 to 1816 the early practice of electing the W.M. twice in every year was followed. Up till 1842 the Lodge was invariably opened in the E.A. Degree, but after that date a resolution of Grand Lodge required that, with the necessary exceptions, all work should be done in the M.M.'s Degree. Till 1872 the annual dues of members were 50 cents. a month, and these were required to be paid, not only by members, but until 1826, by visiting brethren also. The bye-laws of the Lodge were approved by Grand Lodge on 2nd April 1821. As regards its financial history the Lodge Concordia has reason to be proud. On 11th December 1847, it had "only 451 dollars in its treasury, and none invested; in 1831 it had 3,000 dollars invested; in 1841, 3,982 dollars; in 1853, 5,202 dollars; while it now has 10,000 dollars invested in 7 3-10ths Masonic Temple Loan, besides two improved lots in the Lafayette Cemetery, which cost 105 dollars." Its meetings have always been held at the Masonic Hall of Philadelphia; and on 13th September 1811, with reference to the then new Hall, the first Chestnut Street Masonic Hall, we find the following entry: "Hailed our new and superb sanctum; present, 40 members and 23 visitors; 18 candidates initiated during the past year." "All which," says Bro. MacCalla, "was something to be proud of." Among references to former members, and applications for initiation and membership, is mentioned one of a certain person whose application, on 10th June 1814, resulted in his rejection by "one white ball to eleven black balls." Of close elections one is mentioned on 10th December 1819, where there was a tie between the two candidates for the Mastership, there having been 41 votes cast for each. Among circumstances specially redounding to the credit of the Lodge may be mentioned that when, in 1820, the "active members of Lodge No. 2 had dwindled down to ten or twelve, and its funds were not sufficient for its maintenance," a number of brethren, principally from Lodge Concordia, came to its aid, and "by their labours and example restored it to its former condition of vigour and prosperity." Then follows a short account of Royal Arch Masonry in connection with this Lodge, and also of Mark Masonry. But we will not follow the writer through the whole of his account. Let us conclude by noting that the Lodge, both financially and numerically, is in a highly prosperous state, there being, as we have said, over 10,000 dollars invested, and the number of members being 211.

The sketch is very creditable to the patience and ability of its author, the present W.M.; and if other W.M.'s would but follow his example, and compile short histories of their Lodges, the interests of the Order would be greatly advanced.

THE MAGAZINES OF THE MONTH.

A NEW serial—"The Dilemma"—is commenced in this month's number of *Blackwood*. The scene is laid in India, in the year 1856, and several among the characters who are introduced are likely subjects for the pen of one who is evidently a skilful writer to work upon. The heroine, we presume, is Miss Cunningham, daughter of Resident Commissioner Cunningham, and of the other personages, Colonel Falkland, the fussy Mrs. Polwheedle, and the young Subaltern Yorke, bid fair to be interesting. No doubt, as the tale advances, we shall find ourselves launched into some of the most exciting scenes of the Mutiny. The able review of "Lord Lytton's Speeches" is now concluded, and we have a further instalment of that most excellent series of papers on "The Abode of Snow." Then follow some good reviews of recent books, amongst them being the Reminiscences of the late Mr. Macready, and then a sketch of "The China War of 1860," based on the recently published journals of the late General Sir Hope Grant, to whom was given the command of our forces, and to whom the success of the operations appears to have been mainly due, more so, at least, than to his French colleague, General de Montauban. The number closes with the usual political article, the theme being Sir Stafford Northcote's recent budget.

In *Fraser* are an account of "Girton College," "The Story of Swindon," agreeably told by Mr. R. Jefferies, and a long description of "The New Army of France," in which the writer shows very satisfactorily that the military power of our Gallic neighbours will be considerably in excess of what it was before the outbreak of the late war, and, indeed, that in some respects it will possess some advantages over the German system. In addition, we have an interesting account of "The First London Dispensaries," by a Surgeon, and of "The Royal Navy of England," by a Commander. The article headed "Along the Western Coast of India" contains some valuable information. Thus as to the Jainas, of whom many communities still survive in Canara, their faith, we are told, was a mild and humane system, that taught gentleness and goodwill, and was free from the haughty spirit of sacerdotalism that animates the Brahmanical religion; its name implies victory over sin; eastern wildness, and immensity of conception characterise the Jaina doctrine and cosmogony, which include distorted features of other creeds and philosophies. . . . The Jainas of the South teach there are two Kalas or cycles of the world's duration, each made up of six unimaginable periods. The present is the Avasarpini or descending cycle. Nor need we enter into a description of this cycle, which our readers will find expanded at some length. So we pass to the "Utsarpini Kala, or cycle of upward evolution," which "began to bloom in showers of milk and ambrosia, juicy seeds and flowers, and the animals reserved by the gods were brought back to the renovated world, and fed on ambrosial food. It is the peculiarity of these Kalas that, as the terms of life, stature, and happiness continued to diminish through each of the six Avasarpini periods, so during the six Utsarpini periods they go on increasing progressively. These two cycles form one Kalpa, an extent of time inexpressible and inconceivable; and as the constant revolution of the dark and bright lunar fortnights takes place every month, so Kalpas from eternity to eternity have succeeded and shall succeed; thus the Jaina religion is eternal in one respect and transient in another." A great deal more follows on this subject, but we must refer our readers to the article itself. The number closes with Part IV. of a Lady's studies of "German Home Life;" their "Manners and Customs" forming the subject of the present study, and very pleasantly she treats of them.

The *Contemporary* opens with another of Professor Lightfoot's able papers on "Supernatural Religion." This is followed by a brief paper on "Vivisection," by Sir Thomas Watson, who lays down the conditions on which the practice may be followed and the restrictions that should govern it, to which are added suggestions for making vivisection altogether painless to the animal operated on. Mr. Henry Dunning Macleod succeeds with a most elaborate reply to the question "What is Political Economy?" His answer will not perhaps satisfy all the political economists of the day, but as Mr. Macleod has clearly studied his subject, and is careful to advance no proposition without bringing forward strong evidence in support of it, those who may differ with him will find his present essay a very hard nut to crack. Our readers will also find Mr. Grant Duff's "Notes on an Indian Journey" very attractive reading.

As to the four serials in *Tinsley's*, it will suffice, perhaps, if we say that in each case the interest increases as the tenour of the story becomes more and more clearly indicated. Of the other contents we must first single out a short tale, "All a Green Willow," of which we will remark that we hardly know whether to admire most the skill with which very slight materials have been woven together, or the genuine pathos which the writer—who signs himself "Theo."—exhibits in his treatment. As to Dr. Maurice Davies's contributions they are always welcome. In his "Social Status Quo" he touches on everything of interest during the past month, from the weather to Cardinal Manning, the Freemasons, the proposed Pan-Anglican Synod at Lambeth, the recent fatal balloon accident in France, &c. His Troubadour Song, "Amadieu des Escas," is brief enough to admit of our quoting it in full:

Ere, at morn, your stays you lace,
Wash—your arms, your hands, your face;
Then, when this is finished quite,
Lace—I need not tell you *tight*.
Pare your nails, lest there should linger
Ebon tips to each fair finger;
Then give proper care, be sure,
To your splendid chevelure,
Since what strikes each gazer's sight
Chiefly, should be perfect quite.
Every day when morn doth blush
Careful be your teeth to brush;
And be sure all this is done
Ere you 're seen by any one.
This all else doth quite surpass—
Have at hand a looking-glass,
Large and clear, where, with reflection,
You may note your face, complexion.
And, if needful, make correction,
Should some small defect perchance
Break on your admiring glance.

We are very glad that *Cassell's Family Magazine* continues to devote so much space to matters of domestic interest. "How shall I choose my House-Linen?" is by no means an unimportant question to

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solve, and those who have not worked out any solution of their own, will find much benefit if they consult the answer in these pages. "How I dressed my daughters," in these days, when every one is judged by their appearances, quite against the old Roman Maxim, "*Nimium ne crede Colori*," is worth discussing, and we may add, is here worthily discussed. Mr. A. G. Payne, whose views on the art of dining, are marked by great common sense, and whose suggestions are invariably appropriate, tells us "How to make Dishes look nice." "Our Paris Correspondent" furnishes much valuable "Chit-chat on Dress;" and there is a capital paper on the question "How to get to Sleep at Night," in which the writer suggests remedial measures for insomnia. Ordinarily, we think a man who works hard and takes plenty of exercise, and eats moderately but well, will experience no difficulty in sleeping. Besides these domestic papers are several others, all more or less interesting, and especially a Biography of the late Sir W. Sterndale Bennett, an article on Vagabonds, and Mr. J. E. Taylor's paper on "Earthquakes, and how they are caused." The two serials progress, the interest in each being fully sustained. There are two or three neat sets of verses, and generally the illustrations are of a higher quality than usual. Each fresh number of this Magazine confirms our regard for it.

About the most readable article in *Temple Bar* is "A French Doctor Johnson," one Gilles Ménage who, from the account here given, appears to have possessed many of the attributes of our great lexicographer, and certainly to have been somewhat more vivacious. Ménage lived during the 17th century, and seems to have had a good memory, great scholarship, and great conversational powers, but he was as tender-hearted, as religious, as sympathetic with misfortune and suffering as Johnson. He was born in 1613, and early developed a great aptitude for saying caustic things to that extent that we read of a young lady of Angers—his birth-place, who did "not know how to define *la médisance; mais le médisant, c'est le Ménage.*" His *Mercuriale* or Wednesday *réunions* were held regularly for over thirty years, and it is chiefly by what his friends have handed down to us of those Wednesday conversations that we are enabled to appreciate Ménage. Among these *Ménagiana* are included many smart sayings and several witty repartees recorded of other celebrities. Thus, of two Benedictine and Bernardian Monks who met at table, the latter pronounced grace before meat in the words *Benedictus Benedicat*, and the former returns the compliment after meat by uttering the prayer *Bernardus Bernardat*. Again, of the Duke d'Elbœuf, who was ordered by the priest to give satisfaction to an injured servant before receiving the last sacrament. "I was not aware," said the duke, "that salvation depends on reconciling oneself with a valet." Of Furetière we are told that "just before his death he asked for an account of disbursements. 'I have paid,' said the Abbé, 'so much for the Porte Dieu, so much for the men, so much for the two priests.' 'Abbé! Abbé!' groaned the dying man. 'You have ruined me in sacraments!'" We have, further, an illustration of the ruling passion as illustrated by a dying usurer, on whose lips the priest presses a silver crucifix. Opening his eyes, and gazing upon it, the usurer murmurs, "I can't lend much upon that," and then breathed his last. This is not all in *Temple Bar* that is of interest to the reader. The further instalment of "Leah: a Woman of Fashion," the conclusion of "Ralph Wilton's Weird," and the papers on "The Flying Post," "William Charles Macready," and "The Follies of the Wise," are worth reading.

Bailey contains, of course, an admirable biographical sketch of the late Sir Joseph Hawley, whose death occurred so recently, and of a great Cricketer of the olden days, "Mr. E. H. Budd." A further chapter of "Frank Raleigh of Watercombe," "A Few Casts with a Fly-Rod," an anticipatory sketch of "Yachting and Boating" during the approaching season, and "Our Van," well laden with all kinds of news, anecdotes, and smart sayings make up, with other matter, a goodly number.

As usual, *London Society* is well illustrated, and contains a variety of matter for the most part lightly and genially written. Mr. Peyton Wrey continues his notes on "Popular Dramatists." Mr. Sidney Blanchard contributes "Jenkins Over the Water," and there is Part III. of Sarcelle's "Gastronomical Rambles." The "West End Notes," by "The Man in the Mask," are pleasant and chattily written. The one drawback is the continued presence of "Open! Sesame!" which is a heavy weight to be tacked on to so much agreeable light literature.

CORRESPONDENCE.

All Letters must bear the name and address of the Writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.

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THE EARL OF CARNARVON ON FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The great Masonic event which took place upon the 28th ult., and which is so ably described in your columns, viz., the Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as Grand Master, is one which under the circumstances will, no doubt, prove a landmark in the history of the Order. The Prince having been duly robed and chaired as the Grand Master of the English Freemasons, was thereafter addressed or admonished by the Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon, in a most admirable speech, which might have been faultless had the Right Honourable speaker not marred it by unnecessarily introducing certain pseudo-historical remarks based, as it appears to me, not upon fact, but upon fiction. The words which I object to are in the latter portion of the remark: "Freemasonry possesses many titles to respect, even in the eyes of the outer world. *It has, first of all, a great antiquity, an antiquity ascending into the sphere, I may say, of immemorial tradition.*" And, further on, where the speaker says, "Formerly, through the dim periods of the middle ages, it carved its records upon the public buildings of Europe, upon the tracery of the Cathedral windows, and the ornamentation of palaces." Now, as a student of the history of Freemasonry, I beg to say that according to the records which I have perused, our Freemasonry is not of "great antiquity," for no evidence has been produced of its existence even so recently as two hundred years ago; consequently, to talk of it "carving its records" upon cathedrals and palaces "in the middle ages," is simply absurd. If, however, our Right Honourable Brother is possessed of private evidence supporting his assertion, as yet unknown to other students of the history of Freemasonry, I shall be both ready and willing to withdraw and apologise for the foregoing criticisms so soon as I have seen and duly weighed this new evidence. In concluding this letter I would beg leave to say that it is written in no captious spirit, but from a pure desire to support or know the truth. I am very glad, indeed, that the void left by the retrogression of the Marquis of Ripon has been more than filled up by the Prince of Wales, who, I trust, will long be spared to show that he is really worthy of the high position he has been born heir to.

I am, yours fraternally,

W. P. BUCHAN.

Glasgow, 1st May 1875.

WHAT THE PRESS SAY OF FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I am one of the fortunate ten thousand who were privileged to witness the installation of our Most Worshipful Grand Master on Wednesday last, and since then I have been highly entertained by a diligent perusal of the leading articles upon the ceremony which have appeared in the daily and weekly press. In some of the papers, the comments of the writers are characterised by harmless, not to say good-humoured badinage, in others these degenerate into vulgar chaff, while in all, as might have been expected, there is apparent the grossest ignorance of Masonry and its principles.

There is one writer, however, among these in whose article there are displayed such superior vulgarity of expression, such offensive pretence of knowledge, and such scandalous misrepresentations of the brotherhood of Freemasonry that he deserves to be singled out from the others for conspicuous obloquy. The paper in which this remarkable specimen of impudence appeared is called the *Weekly Dispatch*.

I believe it is a paper that in the world of journalism occupies a position somewhere between *Reynold's Newspaper* and the *Englishman*, and it has achieved the notoriety it enjoys from its loudly bellowed scorn of the Sabbath, its derision of the bench of bishops, and its undisguised contempt for monarchs, princes and lords. Naturally enough, the election of the Heir Apparent to the head of an influential organisation such as ours, has excited the bile of these preachers of veiled treason, and the full volume of their wrath is consequently poured forth upon Freemasons. The scribe of the occasion depicts us as organised gluttons and wine bibbers, and there failing in epithetical resource recurs for a further supply to the obfuscated utterances of Carlyle. That Charlatan of phrases describes our Order as "Bog-meteor of phosphorated hydrogen, conspicuous in the murk of things. Bog-meteor foolish, putrescent Will-o'-the Wisp. (Forsooth a great Tautologician.) flameless fire, but too fatuous (the fat's in the fire), mere flame circles, cut in the air for infants, we know how."

The writer who can deliberately quote upon the subject of Masonry the opinions of such a man as Carlyle, a secluded bookworm who looks upon everything with spectacles for eyes, and literally "through a glass darkly," is hardly worthy of notice, and I should not have troubled you with this letter but for the curious piece of braggadocio which terminates this farrago of milk and water malice.

"We will venture to say," asserts this coxcomb of journalism, "that we could give as good an account of what went on in the Albert Hall, on Thursday last (sic) as if we had been present." Now, as the proceedings at the Albert Hall, on Thursday last, mainly consisted of clearing away the barriers deemed necessary for the large influx of visitors on the previous day, I should think that any student of the crazy phrase-maker of Chelsea might be trusted to evolve an account of such work from his inner consciousness without any reference to facts. Is this then a species of sport with lies intended to gull the unwary, or is it a genuine slip of the writer's pen? I shall not attempt to decide the question, but I must say that pretentious ignorance which characterises the article from the beginning to end engenders in my mind a strong suspicion of the writer's candour and good faith.

I am, &c. A MASTER MASON.

1st May 1875.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

IGNORAMUS.—Bro. Sadler is the Grand Secretary's Messenger, and, we believe, acts as Preceptor to the Emulation Lodge of Improvement.

TRAVELLER.—We shall find space for your contribution in an early number.

T. T.—It is a case of custom or the "unwritten law." We know of no "written law" on the subject.

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THE THEATRES, &c.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.—This evening, and Monday, LOHENGRIN. On Tuesday, DINORAH. On Thursday, IL BARBIERE DI SIVIGLIA. On Friday, GUGLIELMO TELL. At 8.30 each evening.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA, DRURY LANE.—This evening, IL TROVATORE. On Monday, IL TALISMANO. On Tuesday, LES HUGUENOTS. On Thursday, MADAME CHRISTINE NILSSON. At 8.30 each evening. On Monday, morning performance of OTHELLO, at 2.30. On Wednesday evening, at 8.0, IL GLADIATORE.

HAYMARKET.—At 7.30, A FAIR ENCOUNTER, DAVID GARRICK, and DUNDREARY MARRIED AND SETTLED.

ADELPHI.—At 7.0, TURN HIM OUT, NICHOLAS NICKLEBY and THE BUNCH OF BERRIES.

PRINCESS'S.—At 7.30, ROUND THE WORLD IN EIGHTY DAYS.

LYCEUM.—At 6.50, FISH OUT OF WATER. At 7.45, HAMLET.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.0, TWENTY MINUTES WITH A TIGER. AT 7.30, THE TWO ORPHANS.

STRAND.—At 7.30, AN EARNEST APPEAL. At 8.0, WEAK WOMEN and INTIMIDAD.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 7.45, THE MERCHANT OF VENICE.

GAIETY.—At 7.30, MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING. At 10, A NICE GIRL.

GLOBE.—At 7.0, EAST LYNNE and BLUE BEARD.

ST. JAMES'S.—At 7.30, A PHENOMENON IN A SMOCK FROCK, TOM COBB and TRYING IT ON.

ROYALTY.—At 7.45, THE SECRET. At 8.15, LA PERICHOLE. At 10.15, TRIAL BY JURY.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG, OUR BOYS and A REGULAR FIX.

MIRROR.—MAIDS OF HONOUR, THE HIDDEN HAND, and MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME.

CHARING CROSS.—This evening, at 7.15, GOOD FOR NOTHING. At 8, A WIDOW HUNT. Concluding with THE TOODLES.

OPERA COMIQUE.—At 8.0, LA BOULE.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, THE GOOSE WITH THE GOLDEN EGGS. At 8.0, WHITTINGTON. (Last Night.) On Monday, THE ARTFUL DODGE and CHILPERIC.

CRITERION.—GIROFLE GIROFLA.

COURT.—At 7.30, SHORT AND SWEET. At 8.30, LADY FLORA.

SURREY.—This evening, SHAKSPEARE.

SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE.—HAMILTON'S NEW EXCURSIONS AT HOME AND ABROAD.

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FREDERICK BINCKES, Secretary,
Office, 6 Freemasons' Hall,
Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.

1st May 1875.

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FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE

67 BARBICAN, E.C.

SUMMARY OF THE WEEK'S NEWS.

In the House of Lords, on Friday, the Duke of Somerset moved for a return of the several classes of guns in use in the Navy. The subject is an important one, for the safety of the country depends on the strength and excellence of our Navy. The debate that followed was interesting, and proved the anxiety of all parties to secure efficiency at all costs, bounded, of course, by a proper regard for the economical side of the question. Among the speakers were the Duke of Cambridge, the Duke of Richmond, and Viscount Cardwell. In the end the motion was agreed to. The Marquis of Salisbury then introduced a measure—which was afterwards read a first time—to protect our rivers from pollution by sewage and other noxious substances, citing in his remarks several rivers, especially in the north of England, which are so are full of pollution as to have become dangerous to health. The House exhibited its sense of the value of the noble Marquis's Bill by loudly cheering him when he resumed his seat. We may have more showy, but very few more practical legislators than Lord Salisbury. On Monday, Earl Russell moved for copies of the correspondence between the Governments of Belgium and Germany on a question of the press in the former country, but the Earl of Derby guardedly replied that the correspondence must, for the present, be looked upon as confidential, at the same time assuring their lordships that the German despatches were couched in the most friendly language. Thereupon Earl Russell said he would postpone his motion till a future day. The County Courts Bill and the Glebe Lands (Ireland) Bill were read a third time, and the Explosive Substances Bill a second time. On Tuesday the Pacific Islanders Protection Bill passed through Committee, a provision having been first inserted, empowering

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Her Majesty to exercise jurisdiction over British subjects in the Pacific Islands, and to appoint a High Commission as well as enabling her to erect a Court of Justice for British subjects in the said Islands. The International Copyright Bill was then read a second time. Afterwards Lord Selborne introduced two Bills, the object of one being to make provision for the better government of the Inns of Court, and the other for the establishment of a general school of law in England. These were read a first time, but the Lord Chancellor refused to pledge himself to the principles of the Bills till he knew more of their details. Thursday, being Ascension Day, their Lordships did not meet.

On Friday, the chief business before the House of Commons, at its morning sitting, was again the Peace Preservation (Ireland) Bill, which, considering that all but a very few members are agreed as to its necessity, seems to meet with much needless opposition. In the evening, on the motion for going into Committee of Supply, Mr. Butt moved a resolution on the subject of the Irish College at Paris. The Government, however, opposed it, and Mr. Butt was beaten by 116 to 54. Major Beaumont then proposed a motion, having reference to the establishment of a central arsenal, and asking for a Committee, but the Government opposed it and the motion was withdrawn. The Artisans' Dwellings Bill was then read a third time, and the Falsification of Accounts Bill passed through Committee. On Monday the House again went into Committee on the Peace Preservation (Ireland) Bill, and clauses 3 and 4 were, at length, passed. A division took place on clause 5, the proposed amendment being negatived by a large majority, after which progress was reported, and the debate adjourned till the following day. On clause 4 an amendment was proposed by Mr. Gibson, and accepted by the Committee, by a majority of 311 to 3, to the effect that the Freemasons and Friendly Brothers, who might through inadvertence or negligence have omitted to comply with the existing law, should be indemnified, and, further, that those bodies which were registered within a year from the passing of this Act should be relieved from the obligation of annual registration. Lord Robert Montagu thought it would be better to pass the Bill without such a clause, and then, if necessary, bring in a special bill on the subject. Mr. Callan said this was substantially a bill of indemnity for the hon. and learned friend for Dublin and his fellows. Mr. Macartney said the Freemasons all over Europe were loyal and well-disposed, and when his statement was met with "Oh! Oh!" from the Home Rulers, he clinched his argument by citing the Kings of Italy and Sweden and the Heir Apparent to the British Crown as the Heads of the Order in their several countries. Mr. Sullivan was anxious to learn all about Freemasons, their secrets, and their objects, so that if he supported Mr. Gibson's amendment he might know what he was voting for. The Solicitor-General pointed out that Mr. Sullivan might acquire the information he needed by becoming a Freemason. Mr. Meldon showed his ignorance by describing the Order in Italy as a most atrocious society, and his want of taste by stating that the appointment of the Viceroy to be Grand Master in Ireland was an insult to 99 hundredths of the Irish people. Mr. B. Johnston pointed out that the Freemasons had never been a secret body, as the names of the members were all published. Sir P. O'Brien, though his religion forbade him joining the Order, saw no reason why others should not have that privilege, or why, if inadvertently they had offended against the law, they should not be indemnified. Mr. Butt thought the indemnification should extend to all societies, and Mr. M. Henry would vote for Mr. Gibson's amendment, after which the Committee divided, with the result already stated above. After reading the Education (Scotland) Sutherland and Caithness Bill a second time the House rose. On Tuesday there was a morning sitting, which was chiefly devoted to the Peace Preservation (Ireland) Bill. The debate was resumed on clause 5, and the only progress made was the disposal of sundry amendments, which were all negatived. On the House resuming at nine o'clock, Mr. O'Clery moved a resolution to the effect that our Government should recognise the Carlists as belligerents, but Mr. Bourke, on behalf of the Government, objected, and the motion was withdrawn. The Marquis of Hartington then submitted a series of three resolutions on the subject of reporting debates, and the presence in the House of strangers. In his speech the noble Marquis entered at great length into the reasons which had induced him to submit these proposals. Mr. M. Henry proposed an amendment, the purport of which appears to have been to get the debates more fully reported. Among the other speakers were Mr. Disraeli, who opposed the resolutions, and Mr. Lowe who supported them, and, in doing so, contrived to infuse a little party excitement into the debate. He would have been followed by the Secretary for War, but Mr. Sullivan drew the attention of the Speaker to the presence of strangers, and that official had, perforce, to order their withdrawal. The rest of the debate, which stands adjourned to the 20th instant, was accordingly conducted with closed doors. The action of the Home Rulers in relation to this question must strike almost everybody as being eminently silly; even a young child would hardly condescend to adopt such mischievous practices. Clearly, the Government, in spite of its unwillingness to disturb the existing order of things, will have to take some steps to prevent such unseemly displays of folly. On Wednesday, the sitting was devoted to the consideration of the Liquor Traffic in Ireland, especially as regards Sunday. Mr. R. Smith proposed the second reading of the Sale of Intoxicating Liquors Sunday (Ireland) Bill. The course of the debate, which was terminated by the rules of the House at a quarter to six o'clock, was marked by a speech from Mr. Gladstone in support of the Bill, the ex-premier frequently eliciting loud opposition cheers of sympathy. On Thursday, after the disposal of sundry questions, Mr. Disraeli, in response to the Marquis of Hartington, stated what would be the course of business, especially with regard to the debate on the Marquis's resolutions so abruptly terminated the previous evening. Some of the statements of the Premier appeared to cause dissatisfaction to the Opposition, and Mr. Gladstone, as he has done once or twice of late, took a more prominent part in the proceedings, noting what he considered objectionable in the conduct of the Prime Minister, and being heartily cheered by his party. The House then went into Committee again on the Peace Preservation (Ireland) Bill, which at length arrived safe and sound from this long and trying ordeal. The House then went into Committee on the Sale of Food and Drugs Bill, reaching the 20th clause, and shortly after adjourned.

On Wednesday Her Majesty held a Drawing Room at Buckingham Palace, about 250 presentations being made, of ladies whose names had previously been submitted by the Lord Chamberlain for approval. The Prince and Princess of Wales, with other members of the Royal Family, the diplomatic and general circles, and many of the nobility and gentry were present.

The annual banquet given by the President and Council of the Royal Academy was held on Saturday, the occasion being, as usual, honoured by the presence of men illustrious for their rank, and patronage of art, or for their eminence in the several worlds of art, science and literature. Sir Francis Grant, the President of the Royal Academy, occupied the chair, being supported on his right by the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Cambridge, Prince Louis of Hesse, Prince Christian, Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, Count Gleichen, the Duke of Teck. There were present also the Lord Chancellor, Mr. Disraeli, the Duke of Richmond, the Earl of Derby, the Marquis of Salisbury, Mr. Ward Hunt, &c. on the one hand; and the Archbishop of Canterbury, Messrs. Gladstone, Forster, Lowe, Goschen, the Marquis of Hartington, Earl Granville on the other. Amongst the rest of the company were Messrs. Millais, Sant, Weekes, Hunt, C. Landseer, Watts, Barry, and other Academicians and Associates; Professor Tyndall, Mr. A Froude, Mr. Matthew Arnold, the Lord Chief Justice, the Lord Chief Baron, Sir Richard Wallace, Sir William Fergusson, the President of the College of Surgeons, the President of the Institute of Civil Engineers, the President of the College of Physicians, Mr. Bessemer, Sir John Lubbock, the Governor of the Bank of England, and the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor of London. The Archbishop of York, as Chaplain to the Royal Academy, said Grace before meat, while after, "For these and all Thy mercies given," was sung by a body of vocalists, consisting of Master Backhouse, Mr. J. Foster, Mr. Coates, Messrs. Montem Smith, Lane, Carter, Winn and Lawler. The usual Toasts were given, that of "The Prince and Princess of Wales and the other members of the Royal Family," being responded to by his Royal Highness in person. The Duke of Cambridge, on behalf of the Army and Reserve Forces, and Mr. Ward Hunt on behalf of the Navy, acknowledged the Toast of "The Army, the Navy, and the Reserve Forces." "Prosperity to the Interests of Science and Literature was responded to by Sir John Lubbock, for Science, and Mr. Matthew Arnold in connec-

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tion with Literature, Mr. Disraeli replied to the toast of "Her Majesty's Ministers," and the Lord Mayor to "The Health of the Lord Mayor and the Ancient Corporation of the City of London." The Archbishop of Canterbury spoke on behalf of the guests, and, in return, proposed the toast, "The Health of the President, and Prosperity to the Royal Academy," an appropriate acknowledgment of which brought the programme to an end. The company broke up about eleven, and, perhaps, the most brilliant event of the season was at an end. At no gathering, except when a Sultan or a Shah visits us, does a grander assemblage of eminent Englishmen occur. Royalty, the Church, the Law, the Ministry, Art, Literature, and Science, Wealth, Municipalities, each and every of these is represented by its most illustrious members. Rank and Fashion were present in the flesh, but what of Beauty there was to be seen was on the walls of the various rooms in Burligton House.

Those who may pass along the Strand just now need hardly inquire what month it is. The numbers of men in clerical garb, and of maidens, old and young, pretty and plain, all passing along that crowded thoroughfare, either converging towards or dispersing from one common centre, these sufficiently betoken that we are in the month of May —a month when all the religious societies under the sun, or, at all events, in the United Kingdom, find their way to Exeter Hall, for the purpose of holding their anniversary meetings. Nor is this the only evidence we have that we have reached the merry month. Very far from it. No matter in what part of London, there are signs of genial spring, and of the pastimes we affect in the brighter months of the year. Any of our readers who may betake himself to the neighbourhood of the White Horse Cellar, in Piccadilly, will be amply rewarded for his pains. He will look at a picture, or rather a series of pictures, which it would have done his father's heart good to have seen —a picture common enough throughout England before 1830, but which, since the introduction of railways, had till quite recently almost died out—we mean the four-horse coach of the period. Of the many "revivals" that are taking place around us, none, we feel certain, will be so popular as the revival of stage coaches. It may be very well to go into ecstasies over Shakerism, or Moody and Sankeyism, or the other isms and ologies which occasionally set us all in a commotion. But there is no ism so dear to an Englishman as stage coachism, no ology for which he would more readily make any sacrifice than horse-flesh-ology. He may hardly, so to speak, know a horse from a cow, yet he takes to horses, and to those who do know something of them, quite naturally. Let then our readers visit the part of Piccadilly we have indicated above, either early in the morning, between 9.30 and 10.30, or of an afternoon, and then they will see, either on the point of setting out, or returning, quite a number of coaches, well appointed, well horsed, and well driven. Such are the Dorking, the Tunbridge, the Windsor, the Guildford and Maidenhead, the Boxhill, the Beckenham, the Virginia Water Coach, and others. Those who have plenty of leisure time cannot do better than avail themselves of one of these opportunities for enjoying a good drive of twenty or more miles out and home again. They will traverse some of the prettiest country in England. They will have good companionship on the road, be able, as they will certainly need, to refresh themselves at the end of the stage and will enjoy the ineffable pleasure of bowling along good country roads at the rate of ten miles an hour, which we take to be far preferable to railway express at sixty miles. The world would be far jollier if it were not in such a desperate hurry to come to an end. Then, having sauntered along Piccadilly in an afternoon, there is the "row" to lounge in if one affects that kind of thing. Or if there is a lack of taste for this insipid sort of amusement, there are the picture galleries all open—the Academy, the Society of British Artists, the Society and Institute of Water Colour Painters, &c., &c. Then the season of athletics is in full swing, while cricket, yachting and polo are well under weigh. Only a few days since the Surrey Cricket Club held its annual meeting. On Wednesday the M.C.C. had their annual meeting and dinner, and already we have seen the score of one county match, in which Kent tried the mettle of thirteen of her colts, and found, apparently, some good stuff amongst them. Then the various rowing clubs are going into practice for the Thames Regatta, for Henley, and other aquatic fixtures. To day the London Athletic Club holds its meeting at Lillie Bridge, and this day fortnight will be held what is usually one of the most successful gatherings of the year, viz. the Civil Service Sports. Altogether muscular Christianity is going to have a pretty busy time of it, and as the weather has been a little more genial of late, we may be pardoned for looking forward to a little outdoor enjoyment. We must be hard indeed to please, if we cannot find some way of amusing ourselves out of coaching, racing, cricket, rowing, yachting, athletics, horticultural and botanic fêtes, horse shows, dog shows, the rough horse play of Victoria Park, or the inane lounge in Hyde Park. By the way, another important event in the racing world has just come off, "Freeman" won the Chester Cup on Wednesday. To-day, at the Alexandra Palace, there is the first of a series of Saturday Popular Concerts, while at the Crystal Palace, where this week has been held the annual Mule and Donkey Show, the first grand display of fireworks will take place.

In the operatic world the chief events to be noted are the appearance, this week, of Madame Christine Nilsson at Her Majesty's, Drury Lane, while Madame Adelina Patti is announced to sing at the Royal Italian, Covent Garden, for the first time this season, on Tuesday next, the 11th instant, when she will enact her usual *rôle* in Meyerbeer's opera "Dinorah." This evening Madame Nilsson will appear in Verdi's Opera "Il Trovatore," while at the Royal Italian will be given for the first time, Wagner's romantic opera "Lohengrin," with Mdlle. Albani as "Elsa di Brabante."

Everything connected with the Arctic Expedition under Captain Nares is being rapidly pushed forward, and the Admiralty are very properly desirous of putting aboard the two ships that will compose it everything that will contribute to make the long winter pass as agreeably as possible. Books, magic-lanterns, dresses for private theatricals are being furnished without stint, while of provisions there will be every variety of preserved meats, &c., &c. The expedition is appointed to start on the 29th instant, the day fixed for the public celebration of Her Majesty's birthday.

The chief event that is talked of on the Continent is the approaching meeting of the Emperors of Russia and Germany at Ems. We hope the friendly meeting of these monarchs may be taken as indicative of peace and goodwill towards all the world. France persists in being disquieted by war rumours. We cannot say she is unreasonable in this, for other powers share her doubts as to a long maintenance of peace. At Grätz more than one demonstration has been made against Don Alphonso (brother of Don Carlos), and his wife Doña Blanca. The reason of the demonstration is not apparent, but the services of the police and military were called into requisition and some difficulty was experienced in restoring order. From India we hear of a dreadful outbreak of cholera. Sir Garnet Wolseley has reached Natal, and taken up his governorship, while a revolution is reported to have broken out at Port-au-Prince, Hayti, on the 2nd instant. This news, however, has not been as yet confirmed.

At a meeting held on Wednesday, 5th instant, to make arrangements for the approaching Festival of the Girls' School, which will take place on Tuesday next, it was resolved that the Stewards from the Province of Yorkshire be seated together at Table No. 2, and ballot for places. Brother J. Boyd was selected as Chairman of the Ladies' Stewards; Bro. Constable to be second Chairman, should a second be required. Brother Headon, W.M. Great City Lodge, to be Vice-Chairman. The Ladies' Stewards are to meet at 2 o'clock, and dine together at 2.30. The Ladies' gallery will be opened at 5 o'clock.

On Friday evening, the 30th ult., Bro. Sir Michael Costa's Oratorio of Eli was performed at Exeter Hall. Every part was crowded. Madame Patey, Madame Lemmens Sherrington, Mr. Santley and Mr. Vernon Rigby sustaining the principal solo parts. The band and chorus consisted of nearly 700 performers. The quartet, "We bless you in the name of the Lord," sung by the before-mentioned artistes, deserves especial praise, and was encored; so also was the march. Bro. Willing was the organist, and the choruses were perfect. Sir Michael Costa conducted.

Mrs. Limpus, the widow of our late respected Brother Richard Limpus, informs her friends and pupils that she continues to hold afternoon Réunions weekly, at her

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residence, 41 Queen Square, Bloomsbury, for the practice of vocal and concerted music. Periodical musical soirées also take place, at which the members of the class may assist, and have the privilege of introducing friends.

The fifteen sections will be worked at the Confidence Lodge of Instruction, White Hart Tavern, Abchurch-lane, on Wednesday, 12th May, at 6·30, when the following brethren will assist:—

1. Jennings 554
2. Livermore 554
3. Ellis 933
4. Horsley 933
5. Griffith 907
6. T. S. Mortlock P.M. Industry
7. Pender 15
8. Hill J.D. 1278
9. Musto P.M. 1349
10. Webb
11. Gross D.C. 1278
12. E. Gottheil P.M. 141
13. Brown 174
14. J. Constable P.M. 185
15. Webb D.C. 174.

On Wednesday next will take place the first drive out of the Coaching Club, the Alexandra Park having been selected as the limit of the excursion.

Bro. Dr. Brette, Head French Master of Christ's Hospital, has been elected Examiner for the University of London. Dr. Brette has held this appointment before, namely, for the years 1865-1870.

Whitsuntide is approaching. We refer our readers who are on pleasure bent to our advertising columns, where will be found particulars of the excursions already advertised by the London, Brighton and South Coast, and the South Eastern Railway Companies.

GRAND CHAPTER—INSTALLATION OF H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES.

ON Wednesday evening another event in connexion with Freemasonry took place at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, viz., the Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as First Principal of the Supreme Degree of Royal Arch Masons. The meetings generally are held in a small room, but on this occasion the Temple where Grand Lodge meetings are holden was used. At 7 o'clock a procession of Grand Officers entered. Comp. John Havers took the chair as 1st Principal, H. Sandeman Grand H., J. Rawson Grand J., J. E. Saunders G.S.N., Rucker G.P.S., John Hervey G.S.E. Grand Chapter was then opened and the minutes of the former convocation were read and confirmed. The acting Grand Z. then announced to the brethren that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales was in attendance, and was ready to take the obligation of Grand Z. A deputation, with Sir Albert Woods at the head, then introduced His Royal Highness to Grand Chapter, where he was duly obligated by Companion John Havers, in a most solemn and impressive manner. H.R.H. was then clothed and invested, and on taking the chair loud and prolonged applause greeted him. His Royal Highness then appointed his officers, viz. Comps. The Earl of Carnarvon Prov. Grand 1st Principal, Lord Skermersdale Grand H., Lord de Tabley Grand J., John Hervey G.S.E., Marquis of Hamilton G.S.N., the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor Principal Sojourner, W. Speed 1st Assistant, R. Gray 2nd Assistant, S. Tomkins G. Treasurer, E. McIntyre Q.C. Grand Registrar, J. F. Morrell Grand Sword Bearer, T. G. Humphreys Grand Standard Bearer, Dr. W. R. Woodman G.D.C. and C. B. Payne Grand Janitor. The following Companions were then nominated on the Committee of Grand Chapter. Comps. J. L. Thomas, J. Brett, H. Levander, J. Boyd, J. E. Saunders and J. Smith. Comp. John Savage was appointed President, and Major Creaton and Benj. Head were also elected. Among those present were Companions Sir Albert Woods Garter, Sir Michael Costa, J. B. Monckton, Hyde Pullen, Parkinson, J. Nunn Leman, Dr. Goldsboro, Swallow, J. Coutts, Ough, J. Boyd, T. Cubitt, T. W. White, Walford, Griffiths Smith, J. Stevens, J. L. Thomas, J. Cockburn, W. Green, Bourne, E. P. Albert, C. E. Lacey, H. Massey, H. G. Buss, Pendlebury, Hilton, C. Hogard, Leman, H. Garrod, H. Muggeridge, A. D. Loewenstark, F. Adlard, G. Bolton, W. Smith, W. Mann, H. Muggeridge, Halsey, Stephens, H. M. Levy, &c.

His Royal Highness then addressed the Companions, and said it afforded him great pleasure to bear the high office just conferred upon him, but he regretted that his other engagements would not allow him to stay throughout the business of the evening. He could, however, assure them that it would be most agreeable to him to come on future occasions, and he might add that he had seized the first opportunity that occurred after his Installation as Grand Master to come up to Grand Chapter and take the chair. After thanking the Companions for their kindness, his Royal Highness, accompanied by Lord Skelmersdale, the deputation, and the Lord Mayor, retired, heartily cheered again by those present.

The Report of the Committee of General Purposes was then read as follows:

TO THE SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF ENGLAND.

The Committee of General Purposes beg to Report that they have examined the Accounts from the 20th January 1875 to the 20th April 1875, both inclusive, which they find to be as follows:

To Balance 20th January	£526 4 0	By Disbursements during the quarter	£191 15 6
„ Subsequent Receipts	475 13 0	„ Balance	810 1 6
	£1,001 17 0		£1,001 17 0

which balance is in the hands of Messrs. Willis, Percival and Co.' Bankers of the Grand Treasurer.

The Committee have likewise to report that they have received the following Petitions:—

1st. From Companions Thomas Cooke jun. as Z, John William Hancock as H, Robert Binley as J, and eleven others for a Chapter to be attached to the Marmion Lodge, No. 1,060, Tamworth, to be called "The Marmion Chapter," and to meet at the Masonic Rooms, Tamworth in the County of Stafford.

2nd. From His Grace the Duke of Manchester as Z, Edward Israel Orford as H, John Clark Dancomb as J, and eleven others for a Chapter to be attached to the Lodge of Merit, No. 466, Stamford, to be called "The Montagne Chapter," and to meet at the George Hotel, Stamford, in the County of Northampton.

3rd. From Companions John Coutts as Z, William Bourne as H, James Summers as J, and six others for a Chapter to be attached to the Ebury Lodge, No. 1348, Millbank, to be called "The Ebury Chapter," and to meet at the Morpeth Arms Tavern, Ponsonby Street, Millbank, Westminster.

4th. From George William Harvey as Z, Murray Richard Gissing as H, Charles Broad as J, and ten others for a Chapter to be attached to the Pacific Lodge, No. 1453, Reefton, New Zealand, to be called "The Reefton Chapter," and to meet at the Masonic Hall, Reefton, in the Province of Nelson, in Westland, New Zealand.

These petitions being in all respects regular, the Committee recommend that the prayers thereof be respectively granted, although they have not lost sight of the fact that the Pacific Lodge, No. 1453, has not been three years in existence. As however, it is situated in the Province of Nelson, where at present no Chapter exists, the Committee recommend that the accustomed limitation of three years be not in this case insisted on.

The Marquis of Ripon having addressed a letter to the Grand Scribe E., resigning the Trusteeship of the Funds of Grand Chapter, the Committee recommend that the resignation be accepted, and the necessary steps taken for carrying it into effect, which was done accordingly; and Comps. Earl of Carnarvon P.G.Z. and Lord Skelmersdale were elected Trustees.

It is with very sincere regret that the Committee have to impart to Grand Chapter the melancholy intelligence of the decease, on the 9th of March last, of the E. Companion William Pulteney Scott, who had uninterruptedly presided over them since May 1864. The Committee desire to record their deep feeling of sorrow at this sad event, and to express their sense of the great loss Royal Arch Masonry has sustained thereby, a sentiment which they feel assured will be unanimously participated in by the Members of Grand Chapter.

(*Signed*) HUGH D. SANDEMAN,
In the Chair.

There being no other business, Grand Chapter was then closed, and the Companions separated.

MASONIC GATHERINGS ON THE EVENING OF THE FESTIVAL.

AMONGST those Lodges who assembled on the occasion of the installation of the M.W.G.M., the Albion Lodge met at Masonic Hall, Air Street, Regent Street, Bro. Marsh in the chair. Twenty-eight brethren sat down to banquet. Bros. P.M.'s Moring, S. Vallentine, Willey, S. Coste, H. Albert, E. Coste, H. Friend, W. H. Baylis, Cater, Stevens, Cater Scott J.W., and visitors Bros. D. H. Jacobs P.M. 27, W. Holland P.M. (Bedford), Allen S.G.D. (Essex), Lyons Lodge of Israel, Birmingham, &c.

The brethren of No. 813, New Concord, celebrated the event at Bro. Gallant's S.W., the Horse Shoe Stores, Borough. The members of the Finsbury Lodge 861 dined at the Rosemary Branch Tavern, where Bro. H. Gabb provided a capital banquet. The Past Masters of the Old Concord Lodge dined at the Hyde Park Hotel. A few members of the St. John's Lodge (Berks and Bucks 795), dined at Bro. Jas. Beale's, the Zetland Arms, South Kensington. Bro. C. Gammon P.M. and Treasurer presided. It is needless to say that the mention of H.R.H. the Grand Master's name was a signal for loud and prolonged cheering, and the brethren present congratulated each other on having witnessed the ceremony.

The Members of the Hervey Lodge, No. 1260, dined together at Simpson's, 103 Strand, to celebrate the Prince of Wales's Installation. In the absence of the W.M. (W. Bro. Jabez Hogg P.G.D.), who was dining with the Grand Officers, the chair was taken by the I.P.M. Bro. C. Barby, supported by Bros. P.M. King jun. Secretary, King D.C., Harrison S.W., Southwood J.W., Kingcombe I.G., Foss, J. R. Cox, Mansell, and others. Among the visitors were Bros. Atkins P.M. 27, Green S.W. 27, Mailwell 27, Hayward 172, and several provincial brethren. After spending a very pleasant evening, the company separated, at the hour of high twelve.

CLUB HORSE PLAYING CARDS.—Mogul Quality, picked 1s 3d per pack, 14s per dozen packs. Do. second 1s per pack, 10s per dozen packs. 1 by post 1½d per pack extra. Cards for Piquet, Bezique, Euchre, &c., Mogul Quality 10d per pack, 9s per dozen packs.—London: W. W. Morgan, 67 Barbican, E.C.

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DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be greatly obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the kingdom would favour us with a copy of their summonses each time of issue.

SATURDAY, 8th MAY.

173—Phœnix, Freemasons' Hall.
176—Caveac, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
1326—Granite, Freemasons' Hall.
1361—United Service, Greyhound, Richmond, Surrey.

MONDAY, 10th MAY.

5—St. George and Corner Stone, Freemasons' Hall.
29—St. Albans, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
45—Strong Man, Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell Green, at 8 (Instruction).
136—Good Report, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
193—Confidence, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
907—Leigh, Freemasons' Hall.
1366—Highgate, Gatehouse Hotel, Highgate.

R. A. 720—Panmure, Horns Tavern, Kennington.
R. A. 1118—University, Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 1319—Asaph, Freemasons' Hall.

40—Derwent, Castle Hotel, High Street, Hastings.
66—Royal Clarence, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
75—Love and Honour, Royal Hotel, Falmouth.
88—Scientific, Red Lion, Petty Cury, Cambridge.
104—St. John's, Wellington Hotel, Stockport.
105—Fortitude, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
240—St. Hilda, Freemasons' Hall, South Shields.
292—Sincerity, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
296—Royal Brunswick, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
314—Peace and Unity, Militia Mess Rooms, Preston.
382—Royal Union, Chequers Hall, Uxbridge.
650—Star in the East, Pier Hotel, Harwich.
661—Fawcett, New Masonic Hall, Seaham Harbour.
665—Montagu, Royal Lion, Lyme Regis.
781—Eastnor, Feathers Hotel, Ledbury.
946—Williamson, Royal Hotel, Monkwearmouth, Sunderland.
1021—Hartington, Royal Hotel, Barrow-in-Furness.
1221—Defence, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
1250—Gilbert Greenall, Masonic Rooms, Warrington.
1253—Travellers, Queen's Hotel, Manchester.

R. A. 89—Royal Cheshire, Astley Arms, Dukinfield.
R. A. 300—Alfred, 23 Albion-street, Leeds.
R. A. 148—Elias Ashmole, Chapter Rooms, Warrington.
M. M. 156—County Palatine, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.

TUESDAY, 11th MAY.

46—Old Union, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
167—St. John's, Holly Bush Tavern, Hampstead.
1269—Stanhope, Thicket Hotel, Anerly.

R. A. 145—Prudent Brethren, Freemasons' Hall.

80—St. John's, Masonic Hall, Sunderland.
93—Social, Freemasons' Hall, Norwich.
241—Merchants, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
284—Shakespeare, Masonic Rooms, Warwick.
371—Perseverance, Freemasons' Hall, Maryport.
495—Wakefield, Masonic Hall, Wakefield.
496—Peace and Harmony, Masonic Rooms, St. Austell, Cornwall.
503—Belvidere, Star Hotel, Maidstone.
605—Zetland, Royal Hotel, Cleckheaton.
626—Lansdowne Lodge of Unity, Town Hall, Chippenham.
723—Panmure, Wellington Hotel, Aldershot.
764—Harbour of Refuge, Masonic Hall, West Hartlepool.
903—Gosport, India Arms Hotel, Gosport.
1213—Bridgewater, Cross Keys Hotel, Eccles.
R. A. 289—Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
R. A. 721—Grosvenor, Bar's Hotel, Chester.
R. A. 1065—Derby, Waterloo Hotel, Cheetham.

WEDNESDAY, 12th MAY.

Festival of the Royal Freemasons' School for Girls.
Committee, Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.
3—Fidelity, Freemasons' Hall.
13—Union Waterloo, Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich.
15—Kent, Freemasons' Hall.
183—Confidence, White Hart, Abchurch Lane, at 7.30 (Instruction).
238—Pilgrim, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, Limehouse.
1017—Montefiore, Freemasons' Hall.
1306—St. John of Wapping, Gun Tavern, High-street, Wapping.

54—Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Rochdale.
84—Doyles Lodge of Fellowship, Masonic Hall, Guernsey.
142—Wilke, Church Inn, Whitefield.
146—Antiquity, Bull's Head Inn, Bolton.
191—St. John, Knowsley Hotel, Bury.
204—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
281—Fortitude, Athenæum, Lancaster.
286—Unity, Freemasons' Hall, Rochdale.
333—Royal Preston, Royal George Hotel, Fullwood.
430—Fidelity, Queen's Arms, Dukinfield.
708—Carnarvon, Mitre Inn, Hampton Court.
731—Arboretum, Arboretum Hotel, Derby.
820—Lily Lodge of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, Surrey.
851—Worthing Lodge of Friendship, Steyne Hotel, Worthing.
852—Zetland, Albert Hotel, Salford.
1018—Shakespeare, Freemasons' Hall, Bradford.
1052—Callender, Public Hall, Rusholme.
1094—Temple, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
1159—Ashton, White Hart Hotel, Cheadle.
1346—Victoria, Cross Keys Hotel, Eccles.

R. A. 289—Unity, Masonic Rooms, Rochdale.

THURSDAY, 13th MAY.

91—Regularity, Freemasons' Hall.
206—Friendship, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
263—Bank of England, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
879—Southwark, Southwark Park Tavern, Southwark.
1 76—Capper, Marine Hotel, Victoria Docks, West Ham.
1116—Macdonald, Head Quarters 1st Surrey Volunteer Corps, Brunswick-road, Camberwell.
1286—Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tavern, Seven Sisters-road, Holloway.
1321—Emblematic, Tulse Hill Hotel, Tulse Hill.
1471—Islington, Cock Tavern, Highbury.
1475—Peckham, Victory Tavern, Old Kent-road.

R. A. 859—Vane, Freemasons' Hall.

71—Unity, Masonic Hall, Lowestoft.
97—Palatine, Masonic Hall, Sunderland.
130—Royal Gloucester, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton.
139—Britannia, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
216—Harmonic, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool.
339—Unanimity, Crown Hotel, Penrith.
477—Mercy, 55 Argyle-street, Birkenhead.
733—Royal Brunswick, Royal Pavilion, Brighton.
786—Croxteth United Service, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
816—Royds, Spring Gardens Inn, Wardle, near Rochdale.
854—Albert, Duke of York Inn, Shaw, near Oldham.
939—Pelham, Corn Exchange, Worksop.
1035—Prince of Wales, Masonic Hall, Kirkdale.
1065—Derby, Knowsley Hotel, Cheetham, near Manchester.
1147—St. David, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.

R. A. 51—Patriotic, Three Cups, Colchester.
R. A. 220—Harmony, Wellington Hotel, Garston.
R. A. 233—Wisdom, Bull's Head Inn, Haslingden.
K. T. 12—St. Michael, Mason's Arms, Newchurch.
K. T. 21—Salamanca, Freemasons' Hall, Halifax.
M. M. 113—Blair, Commercial Inn, Haslingden.
M. M. 136—Alfred, Bridge Inn, Bury.

FRIDAY, 14th MAY.

33—Britannic, Freemasons' Hall.
154—Caledonian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
187—Bedford, Freemasons' Hall.
177—Domatic, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
1420—Earl Spencer, Freemasons' Hotel, New Wandsworth.

R. A. 6—Friendship, Willis's Rooms, King-street, St. James's.
R. A. 33—Britannic, Freemasons' Hall.

36—Glamorgan, Freemasons' Hall, Cardiff.
155—Perseverance, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
170—All Souls, Masonic Hall, Weymouth.
456—Aire and Calder, Ouse-street, Goole.
697—United, George Hotel, Colchester.
815—Blair, Town Hall, Hulme.
1001—Harrogate and Claro, Masonic Rooms, Harrogate.
1121—Wear Valley, Talbot Hotel, Bishop Auckland.
1269—Rock, Albert Rooms, Rock Ferry.

R. A. 903—Alexandra, Midway Hotel, Levenshulme.
R. A.—Mariners, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
K. T. 4—Hope, Freemasons' Hall, Huddersfield.

SATURDAY, 15th MAY.

1185—Lewis, King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green.
1329—Sphinx, Camberwell.

306—Prince George, Bottoms, Eastwood, Yorks.

IRELAND.

MONDAY—154—Prince of Wales' Own Lodge, Masonic Hall, Belfast.
TUESDAY—6—St. Patrick, Masonic Hall, Cork.
THURSDAY—20—Light of the West, Grand Jury Room, Sligo.
" 245—Roscommon, Court House, Roscommon.
" 352—Castleblaney, Castleblaney, Monaghan.
" 411—Drogheda, Masonic Hall, Drogheda.
FRIDAY—178—St. John, Castle-street, Lisburn, co. Antrim.
" 211—Magherafelt, Court House, Magherafelt, co. Derry.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—145—St. Stephen, St. James's Hall, Writer's-court.
TUESDAY—1—Mary's Chapel, Waterloo Hotel, Waterloo-place.
WEDNESDAY—2—Canongate, Kilwinning-street, St. John's Chapel, St. John-street.
" R. A. 1—Edinburgh, Freemasons' Hall.
THURSDAY—8—Journeymen, Blackfriars-street, High-street.
FRIDAY—36—Canongate, Kilwinning-street, St. John's Chapel, St. John's-st.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Robert Burns Lodge, No. 25.—At the meeting held on 3rd of May 1875, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C., there were present Bros. G. G. Wilson W.M., A. W. Harrison S.W., W. A. Malony J.W., T. Wingham jun. S.D., E. Dunn J.D., H. Dicketts D.C., Arnold and Loug (wine stewards), G. R. Sherwill I.G., Radford Tyler, J. Dyte P.M. Secretary, J. E. Welch P.M. Treasurer. Past Masters Bros. Watson, Wingham, Nicholls, E. W. Long, J. Caldwell, &c. Visitors, Bros. Thompson, Cleanell, Austen, Claassen, Fowler, Boyd, Millar, &c., &c. The business transacted consisted of passing Bro. W. G. Watts and initiating Mr. Jno. Sansom, after which the brethren and visitors, numbering together about 80, sat down to a banquet, served by Bro. Francatelli.

St. John's Lodge, No. 70.—The regular meeting was held on 4th May, at the Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth. Present, Bros. James J. Avery W.M., H. W. Thomas S.W., R. G. Bird J.W., R. Pengelley S.D., E. Sarrett J.D., J. P. Rogers D.C., W. Garland Steward, E. Arnold I.G., T. Smith Tyler, V.W. J. B. Gover P.M. P.P.G.A.D.C. Secretary, V.W. L. D. Westcott P.M. P.P.G.S. Works Treasurer; Past Masters, Bros. Dupré P.P.G.D.C., Andrews, Stribling, Culley, Skelton. Visitors, Bros. Manning I.P.M. D. Box S.W. 156, J. Rendle W.M., Webber Harbron 1247, Warde 139, Hawke S.W. 159, Hovell J.W. 1255. The Lodge having been opened, and the minutes confirmed, the Lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bros. Townsend and King having proved their proficiency in the former degree were passed to the F.C. degree. The Lodge was then resumed to the first degree, and Messrs. Mallett and Tout, previously ballotted for and accepted, were initiated into the Order. The ceremony being conducted throughout with that care and efficiency which is so well calculated to sustain the prestige enjoyed by this old and prosperous Lodge. The Lodge was then closed, and the meeting adjourned.

Lodge of Joppa, No. 188.—This flourishing Lodge (the members of which may justly be proud on account of the M.W.G.M. having selected their worthy P.M. and Treasurer, Bro. E. P. Albert, as Assistant Grand Pursuivant), held its regular meeting at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate Street, City, on the 3rd instant. Bro. S. Hickman W.M., A. G. Dodson S.W., L. Lazarus J.W.; L. M. Auerhaan Treasurer; E. P. Albert, Assistant Grand Pursuivant, Secretary, Miller S.D., Auerhaan I.G., H. Hymans D.C., and a very large attendance of the brethren, including P.M.'s A. Berkowitz, M. Alexander, H. M. Levy, E. H. Hunt, O. Roberts, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. Rutherford, Louisson, Mayers and Poole having answered the necessary questions in a satisfactory manner, were

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passed to the degree of Fellow Crafts. Messrs. Linderbaum, Lisen, Bissett and Davis were initiated into the order. Bros. Hertzberg, Nourick and Skinner were raised to the 3rd degree, the ceremony being very creditably performed. Several candidates were proposed for initiation, and a notice of motion was given by Bro. O. Roberts I.P.M. that the Initiation Fee should be raised to £10 10s, and the joining fee £8 8s. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to slight refreshment, when the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given. The W.M. proposed the health of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales the M.W.G.M., whom he stated every Bro. was proud to see in that position, for the moment he took the Gavel in his hand he showed himself a worthy ruler of the Craft. (Loud cheers.) The toast of the Earl of Carnarvon Pro Grand Master was also received with applause, as also was that of the Right W. Bro. the Earl of Skelmersdale D.G.M. and the rest of the Grand Officers. The Chairman was proud to say that the Lodge of Joppa had been honoured by the appointment of Bro. E. P. Albert as Assist. Grand Pursuivant; he was one well fitted for that office; in fact, if he was not so, he would never have been raised to that proud position. Bro. E. P. Albert returned thanks. The W.M. in proposing the toast of the Benevolent Fund attached to the Lodge, said, it had the large sum of £1,150, and he informed the brethren that the newly initiated candidates had each given the sum of 21s, Bro. Stransky £2 2s, and Bro. A. Auerhaan (who is about leaving this country to go to the Cape of Good Hope) had given the sum of £5 5s. (Cheers.) Every brother wished him a successful voyage and a speedy return. Bro. Spiegel V.P. responded to the toast. Bro. Davis returned thanks for the newly initiated brethren. Bro. O. Roberts I.P.M., in proposing the toast of the W.M., said he was one who had performed the duties of the Lodge in a very efficient manner, and the brethren were proud to have him to preside over them. The W.M. briefly returned thanks. Bro. Harty responded to the toast of the Visitors, who were Bros. Fruindlich 1017, W. Jenkins 152 (Calcutta), H. Frost 595, J. K. Pitt 463, C. J. Scales 1507, J. Rosenthal 1017, E. J. Harty (Eclectic Lodge), J. Card 125, Bak (Amsterdam). The toasts of the P.M.'s, Wardens and officers followed, and a very agreeable evening was passed, enlivened by the harmony of Bros. Mayers, Benjamin and Hunt.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—The weekly meeting was held on Wednesday, 5th May, when amongst those present were Bros. Walker W.M., Blackhall S.W., D. Posener J.W., Pitt Sec., E. Gottheil Preceptor, Constable, Roes W.M. 185, Hogard P.M. 205 W.M. 453, Gluckstein P.M. 51, Morgan, &c. Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. In consequence of Bro. Constable's ballot being arranged for this evening, the standing orders were suspended, and the first, second, third and fourth sections of the first lecture were worked by Bros. Webb, Posener, Hogard and Beckett respectively, each brother vieing with his fellow to gain the approval of those assembled. Bro. Constable's ballot was then proceeded with, particulars of which will be found in another part of our issue.

Samaritan Lodge, No. 286.—The monthly meeting was held on 29th of April, at the Green Man Hotel, Bacup. Bros. John Crossley W.M. pro tem, James Pilling S.W., Henry Taylor I.W., John Wilson S.D., Robert Stewart J.D., William Fletcher I.G., John Earnshaw Tyler. Past Masters, Bros. William Blackledge, Robert Crossley sen., James Barker. Visitors, Bros. John Plane and John Law. The Lodge was duly opened in the first degree, a letter was read from the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, desiring the Lodge to nominate two or three brethren for the office of Prov. Grand Pursuivant, and he would appoint one of them to the office at the provincial meeting to be held at Darwen, on 13th May next. Past Masters John Taylor, John Pilling, and James Barker were duly nominated. Bro. N. Chadwick, Secretary, was appointed to represent the Lodge at the meeting of the Charity Committee, to be held in the Freemasons' Hall, at Manchester, on the 4th May. The Lodge was then closed. A banquet to celebrate the Installation of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales as the R.W. Grand Master of England was afterwards held.

Lodge Virtue and Silence, No. 332.—A meeting was held on Thursday, 15th April, at the White Lion Hotel, Hadleigh. There were present: Bros. A. Atkins W.M., A. J. Grimwade S.W., W. C. Eltham J.W., F. Grimwade S.D., W. Mackney J.D., S. Cooper I.G.; P.M.'s W. Hart P.P.G.J.D., H. Golding P.M., E. B. Powell, G.P.P. Super., W. Gardiner P.P.G.P., J. T. Muriel P.M., A. K. Laslett I.P.M., T. Chisnall Secretary, and Bros. R. Adams, A. Seaborne, Hitchcock, King, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were read and confirmed. The Lodge was then opened in F.C. degree, when Bro. King, having answered the usual questions, was entrusted and retired. The Lodge was then opened in 3rd degree, when Bro. J. King was raised to the sublime degree. The ceremony being rendered by Bro. A. K. Laslett I.P.M. Bro. Hart then gave remainder of traditional history. Bro. Mackney J.D. proposed that the M.M.'s ticket for the Installation be given to Bro. F. Grimwade S.D., which was unanimously agreed to. The Lodge was then closed in harmony.

Drogheda Lodge, No. 411.—A regular meeting was held on the 8th April at Masonic Hall, Drogheda. Present, Bros. F. E. Clarke P.M. H.K.T. in absence of W.M. officiated pro tem, J. L. Whitty S.W., N. Flynn J.W., J. Dean P.M. (S.D. pro tem), H. Griffin J.D., C. M. McCausland I.G., Rev. F. Hannan Chaplin, Browne Tyler, Preston Secretary and Treasurer, pro tem; Past Masters, Bros. Harbinson, Morton, Parsons and Dyas; Visitors, Bros. Rudkin 10, Wilkin 351, Thomas 351, Harvey 85, and Hamilton. Bro. R. B. Daly jun. was raised to high and sublime degree of M.M. Mr. Charles Wm. Osborne initiated. Two candidates passed ballot, and two new ones were proposed. Bro. Hannan elected honorary member in recognition of his office as Chaplain.

Churchill Lodge, No. 478.—The Anniversary Festival was held on Tuesday Evening, 4th May, at the Masonic Hall, Oxford, where there was an unusually large and distinguished gathering of the brethren, among those present being Brother H.R.H. Prince Leopold. A *récherché* banquet was served at half-past seven.

Grosvenor Lodge, No. 1251.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held at the Westminster Palace Hotel, on the 4th inst. H. Bethell W.M., J. Cox S.W., Thurkle J.W., C. A. Cottebrune P.G.P. Secretary, and Past Masters T. Parker, Lowenthal, Meredith, and a very numerous assemblage of the brethren were present. The Lodge was opened and minutes of the regular meeting and the Emergency Meeting were read and confirmed; also the auditors' report was read and adopted. A vote of thanks was accorded to the auditors for their able report. A Board of Installed Masters was then formed, and Bro. C. A. Cottebrune P.G.P. occupied the chair. Bro. Cox S.W. and W.M. elect was then presented to the Lodge, when the brethren were informed that he was the first gentleman initiated in the Lodge. Brother Cottebrune then duly installed him into the chair of K.S., in his usual careful and perfect manner, eliciting the compliments of all present. There were 18 W.M.'s and P.M.'s to witness the ceremony, and the W.M. having been duly saluted according to ancient form, invested his officers as follow, viz. Bro. Bethell I.P.M., Thurkle S.W., Hughes J.W., Meredith P.M. Treasurer, C. A. Cottebrune P.G.P. Secretary, J. Elliott S.D., Cantle J.D., T. Murley I.G., F. Godfrey Organist, Pilditch D.C., T. Bull W.S., Woodstock Tyler, Baker Assistant D.C. To judge by the expressions of approval given by the brethren, the appointment of the officers gave great satisfaction. Bro. Lowenthal P.M. was appointed Steward for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution at the next Festival. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren, eighty in number, sat down to a very récherché banquet, provided by Mr. Bunyan, that gave unqualified satisfaction. After the grace had been sung, the W.M. proposed the Toast of "Her Majesty the Queen." The W.M. next proposed the Toast of "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales," whose name was received with loud marks of applause. The glee "By Celia's Arbour," was then sang. The W.M. then proposed the Toast of the "Provincial Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon." Bro. Montem Smith then sang "Tom Tackle." The Toast of the Earl of Skelmersdale Deputy Grand Master," followed. The W.M. said he was proud to see Bro. J. Boyd P.G.P. present; he was also one of the members of Grand Lodge, of whom they were all proud. Bro. J. Boyd P.G.P. returned thanks for the Grand Officers, and regretted the whole of the brethren who were Master Masons were not able to be present to witness such a glorious sight as the Installation. The selection of officers made by the M.W.G.M. had given great satisfaction. (Cheers.) The S.G.W. the Marquis of Hamilton, the Right Hon. the Lord Major of London, with other honoured members of the Craft being amongst those distinguished, was sufficient to show to the brethren that H. R. H. was truly and eminently qualified to fill his position. (Loud cheers.) Bro. Bethell I.P.M. then proposed the toast of the W.M. He was one who every brother was proud to see in the chair. He had worked his way, and was always ready to do any duty the Lodge required of him. The W.M. suitably responded, and proposed the toast of the Visitors, amongst whom he said were many distinguished in the Craft, and included Bro. J. Boyd P.G.P. They were always pleased to see visitors, and he hoped that all would be present on future occasions. The glee, "Soldier's Love," was then sung. Bro. C. L. Thomas returned thanks for the toast, and was followed by Bro. E. Lanssot. Bro. Chaplin Henry then sang "I am a Friar of Orders Grey." The W.M. then proposed the toast of the P.M.'s, and said he hoped to follow in their footsteps. The brethren had seen what the Past Masters had done, and to mark the manner his predecessor had performed his duties, he had much pleasure in placing on his breast a jewel he might be proud to wear, and he hoped he would live long to carry it. (Cheers.) Bro. Bethell I.P.M., in the name of the Past Masters, returned thanks for the toast; he had also to thank them personally for the mark of their esteem in giving him so valuable a gift. The toast of the initiates was then proposed, and Bro. Cumbers responded. The W.M. then proposed the Treasurer, Bro. Meredith P.M., who, in discharging his duties, had given every satisfaction. Bro. C. A. Cottebrune P.M. P.G.P., who was the first Master, said he had initiated him. Brother Meredith P.M. briefly returned thanks, and Bro. C. A. Cottebrune P.M. P.G.P. and Secretary followed. The toast of the officers followed, the W.M. stating that every officer he had appointed was able to fulfil every duty required. The toasts having been responded to, the Tyler's toast followed, and a most enjoyable entertainment was brought to a conclusion. Amongst the visitors were Bros. E. J. Copping 933, J. Boyd P.G.P., Allport 165, Thomas P.M. 142, E. Coles 1319, H. M. Levy P.M. 188, Read P.M. 209, E. J. Scott P.M. 749, Knight 1306, Swallow P.M. 382, Strip 749, H. Levander P.G.D. Wilts, M. Bourne P.M. 1349, Mesroud, H. Norman P.G.S., McGee Wellington Lodge, Mason P.M. 144, W. Mann P.M. 188, Ballard 511, Chaplin Henry, Canton, &c.

Lodge of Asaph, No. 1319.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, the 3rd inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street. Bro. E. Frewin W.M., S. Jeykell S.W., W. A. Tinney J.W., E. Terry S.D., H. Tinney I.G.; and P. M.'s C. Coote P.G.O. (Middlesex), Jas. Weaver P.P.G.O. (Middlesex), E. S. Jones P.M., J. Chamberlin P.M., and several other brethren. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. Bro. Coles was raised to the third degree, the ceremony being perfectly and impressively delivered by the W.M., assisted by the officers. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren separated.

Great City Lodge, No. 1426.—An emergency meeting was held on 1st May 1875, at City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street. Bros. N. B. Headon W.M., J. H. Townend and W.M. Elect S.W., J. Seex S.W., G. Blackie as S.D., C. Taylor as J.D., T. Preston D.C., James Freeman Treasurer as I.G., W. Steedman Tyler, Edward

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Moody Secretary; P.M. Bro. James Stevens; Visitors—Bros. W. Ferguson, St. Mark's Lodge, S. Browne, J. Boulton, T. W. Headon, A. Hicks, J. Bumpus and Keeble. Raised Bros. Gray and Crickmay; Passed Bros. White, Bristow, Measures, Hicks, Durrant, McNiven and Farmer; Initiated Messrs. W. H. Rowe, J. Liscombe, C. Lord, G. S. Goodman, and S. Benskin. Opened at 3, closed 8·15. Called off for refreshment at 5·45, resumed at 6·15. Five propositions for Initiation were made. Another Emergency probably in June. Apologies for non-attendance were received from about twenty members.

CONSECRATION OF THE PRIORY CHAPTER, No. 1000, SOUTHEND.

THIS Chapter, attached to one of the most important Lodges in the Province of Essex, was consecrated in a most admirable manner on Saturday, 1st May, at Middleton Hotel, Southend-on-Sea, by E. Comp. R. Wentworth Little P.Z., Grand Scribe E. Middlesex, Secretary Girls' Masonic School, &c., assisted by J. Percy Leith P.Z. P.G. 1st Assistant Sojourner as acting H., John Boyd P.Z. Prov. G.P. Sojourner Middlesex as acting J., and E. Comp. H. G. Buss P.Z. Prov. G. Treasurer (Middlesex) as Director of Ceremonies. There were also present, in spite of the most inclement weather, and the opening of the Alexandra Palace, Comps. Rev. S. R. Wigram P.Z. 214, Grand Chaplain of England, Col. Wilkinson P.Z. P. Prov. Sojourner Cheshire, H. A. Dubois 1326 Pro. G.D.C. Middlesex, G. Cooper M.E.Z. 214, J. H. Spencer 73, Mason 73, Willing jun. 177, F. Dawson 188, W. T. Christian 544, C. Eltham 554, W. Skilleter 829, J. G. Marsh 975, J. Green 975, E. G. Phillips 379, A. Lucking 1293, Spencer R. Weston 7, J. C. Johnstone, J. A. Wardell, Rev. H. J. Hatch, and T. W. Gower, all of 1293, and W. T. Allen, Comp. Gilbert Janitor, &c. Comp. R. W. Little having opened the Chapter according to ancient form, the Companions were marshalled and admitted in due precedence. The Petitioners were called upon to signify their approval of the officers named in the warrant, viz. Comps. Rev. S. R. Wigram Z., E. G. Phillips H., and A. Lucking J. This being unanimous, Comp. Little gave a very interesting address, and the Chapter was consecrated in a most impressive manner, most highly appreciated by every one present. The installation of Principals was then proceeded with, after which the following Companions were duly elected to the various offices, viz. Comps. S. R. Weston Treasurer, J. C. Johnstone Scribe E., Rev. H. J. Hatch Scribe N., J. A. Wardell P. Sojourner, James Willing jun. 1st Assistant Sojourner, J. W. Gower 2nd Assistant Sojourner, E. B. Mountain Janitor. The musical arrangements were ably conducted by Comp. F. Dawson. Comps. R. W. Little, J. Percy Leith, J. Boyd and H. G. Buss were unanimously elected honorary members of the Chapter. Several companions and brothers were nominated for joining and exaltation respectively at the ensuing meeting, Wednesday, 12th May. All Masonic business being finished, the companions adjourned to a splendid banquet provided by Bro. F. Cantor, presided over by the M.E.Z. The usual Loyal and Royal Arch toasts having been duly honoured, that of the Grand Officers being acknowledged by E. Comp. J. Percy Leith, the M.E.Z. proposed the Masonic Charities, and alluded to the excellent manner the ceremonies had been performed, and the truly fraternal feeling always evinced by Comp. Little, Secretary of the Girls' School, in doing his utmost for the Craft. E. Comp. R. W. Little responded in feeling terms, acknowledging the courtesy of the companions, and wishing the new Chapter every prosperity. He thanked the Comp. J. for placing his name as Steward to the Girls' School. Rev. Comp. H. J. Hatch gave, in the course of the evening, an original Masonic song, composed by him, to commemorate the M.W.G.M.'s installation, which gave great satisfaction. The Janitor's toast being given, the companions separated at a late hour, having thoroughly enjoyed themselves, several taking the opportunity of staying the next day to view the town and note the vast improvements recently made.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY NEWS.

FRIDAY.

The Bank rate remains unchanged. Very little alteration has taken place in the Home Railway Market, and prices are for the most part about the same as last week. The principal changes being an increase of 1¼ in Great Northern A. 2½ in Lancashire and Yorkshire, 1¼ in North British, and 1¼ in North Eastern Consols.

The Banker's clearing house return for the year ending 30th April 1875, shows that the total amount of bills, cheques, &c., cleared during the 12 months, amounted to £6,013,299,000, or an increase of £19,713,000 as compared with the previous year.

The number of disasters to shipping reported during the month of March is, according to the Bureau Veritas, as follows:—Sailing vessels reported lost, 131, viz.: 72 English, 14 American, 13 French, 9 Dutch, 7 Italian, 4 Norwegian, 3 Danish, 3 Greek, 2 Swedish, 1 German, 1 Brazilian, 1 Portuguese, and one of which the nationality is unknown. In this number are included 18 sailing vessels reported missing. Steamers reported lost, 15, viz.: 9 English, and 6 American.

The National Bank of Australasia have declared a dividend of 10 per cent. together with a bonus of 2 per cent.; written £10,000 off Bank Premises account and carried £7,246 forward.

A company has been formed to carry into effect a scheme for establishing a steam ferry between Wapping and Rotherhithe.

At the annual meeting of the London and Lancashire Fire Insurance Company of Liverpool, held on the 6th inst., the net premiums for 1874 were stated at £251,536 against £204,534 in the preceding year. Fire losses for 1874 were £160,779. The reserve and general fund is increased by the results of the year to £33,262.

A company has been projected for the purpose of providing the Freemasons of London and suburbs with a Club which shall be open to members of the Craft only. The principal features are the formation of a Lodge of Instruction, to be presided over by efficient instructors in Masonry, to provide accomodation for Lodges and private parties, and to give to members the means of obtaining every information respecting Masonry at home and abroad. The capital is divided into 10,000 shares of £5 each, 2,000 of which are now offered as it is considered that this number will be sufficient to start the Club in a complete and commodious manner, and, as it is not at present proposed to erect premises, it may be assumed that this amount will be sufficient for all requirements. Shareholders are offered the advantage of entering the Club, subject to election, without paying the entrance fee it is proposed to impose so soon as the number of members reaches 500. The directors state that they intend securing suitable premises for the club in a central part of London as soon as possible, and estimate that the subscriptions of the members, together with the profit to be derived from the sale of provisions, &c., will be sufficient to pay all working expenses, and leave a surplus available for dividend, which will allow of a large return being made to the shareholders. Forms of application for shares (which will be received from the general public as well as from Freemasons) or membership, together with all information, may be had from the Secretary, at the offices, Victoria Buildings, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.

The following statement shows the receipts for traffic on the undermentioned railways for the past week, as compared with the corresponding week in 1874:—

Railway.	Miles open. 1875	Receipts. 1875 £	1874 £
Caledonian	737½	53,071	49,701
Glasgow and South Western	315½	18,388	16,992
Great Eastern	763	50,686	46,183
Great Northern	523	55,104	51,468
Great Western	1,525	104,165	101,468
Lancashire and Yorkshire	430	63,025	61,481
London and Brighton	376½	31,075	33,341
London, Chatham and Dover	154½	17,787	16,496
London and North Western	1,582½	171,865	169,675
London and South Western	626½	38,747	38,520
London, Tilbury and Southend	45	1,697	1,793
Manchester and Sheffield	259½	30,721	30,138
Midland	944½	115,762	108,686
Metropolitan	8	9,049	8,396
" " District	8	5,426	4,466
" " St. John's Wood	1½	474	427
North British	839	42,135	37,771
North Eastern	1,393	129,164	123,778
North London	13	7,229	7,170
North Staffordshire Railway	190	10,967	9,792
" " Canal	118	1,665	1,589
South Eastern	350	34,188	34,416

THE DRAMA.

Shakspeare at the Gaiety—Mr. J. S. Clarke at the Charing Cross.

STILL working that mine which, of late, has proved productive of so much profit, Mr. Hollingshead has now produced *Much Ado About Nothing*. In many respects this is the best of Shakspeare's comedies, and few stage stories have more charm and interest than that of the courtship of Beatrice and Benedick, whilst the troubles of Hero form a darker contrast to their playful love-making. The cast at the GAIETY is a fairly good one: Mr. Markby is the Pedro and Mr. Boyne the Claudio. Mr. J. G. Taylor's Verges is an admirable picture of scurrility, and the humours of Mr. Righton as Dogberry, though somewhat forced, is still effective. Mr. Righton must cure himself of a tendency to overact, if he wishes to take that high place in his profession for which he seemed to be destined two or three years ago. Mr. Hermann Vezin plays Benedick in a manner which leaves nothing to be desired, except a little more youth and dash. His elocution, always admirable, never shows to greater advantage than in the speeches of Shakspeare; his distinctness and first emphasis form a striking contrast to the slipshod delivery of many of his fellow actors. Miss Furtado looks charming as Hero; the services of Miss Ada Cavendish have been secured for the part of Beatrice, and it could hardly be in better hands, whether in the playful badinage of the earlier acts, or in the passion of the scene in which she incites Benedick to challenge Claudio, she is equally admirable. All the self-consciousness which used to mark and mar this lady's acting have disappeared, and she merges herself entirely in the character she is playing; her improvement during the past few years has been marvellous, and no one who saw her as Venus in Mr. Barnand's Ixion at the Royalty, would have then anticipated from her such a performance as that of her Beatrice to-day. With acting like hers, and that of Mr. Vezin, it is not surprising that this revival is the most successful of the series, and that in spite of the warm weather the GAIETY audiences are most enthusiastic. The programme concludes with the farce of "A Nice Girl," in which Miss Farren's pleasant vivacity is again welcomed by her numerous admirers.

Mr. J. S. Clarke is deservedly one of the most popular of our entertainers; nowhere is one so sure of a hearty laugh as at the place, where, for the time being, he is holding high carnival. All his little mannerisms, his curious inflections of voice, contortions of face, or expressive eccentricity of gesture, do but tend to promote greater hilarity. During a too short season at the CHARING CROSS, he is playing in two of his most popular characters,—Major De Boots, and Toodles. Who has not admired him as the lion-hearted, but slightly timid, the ostensibly fire-eating, but really chicken-hearted Major; or laughed at the desperate struggles of Toodles with his gloves, and his warm friendship with the pump handle? His fun is spontaneous and genuine, and equally so the laughter it provokes. Although Mr. Clarke's engagement at the CHARING CROSS is almost over, we trust that his absence will be of no long duration.

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RAILWAY ANNOUNCEMENTS.

WHITSUNTIDE ARRANGEMENTS.—LONDON, BRIGHTON & SOUTH COAST RAILWAY, EXTENSION OF TIME FOR RETURN TICKETS, May 14th to 19th (for distances over 10 miles).

CHEAP SATURDAY TO MONDAY TICKETS issued on SATURDAY, May 15th, available for return on the following Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday.

EXTRA TRAINS FOR ISLE OF WIGHT.—The 3.50 p.m. from Victoria and London Bridge will convey passengers for Cowes and Newport; and the 4.50 p.m. from Victoria and London Bridge will convey passengers for Ryde, Sandown, Shanklin and Ventnor on May 14th.

PORTSMOUTH AND ISLE OF WIGHT.—CHEAP TRAINS from London on WHIT SUNDAY and MONDAY.

A CHEAP TRAIN, SATURDAY, May 15th, to Havant and Portsmouth from London Bridge 2.50 p.m., and Victoria 1.0 p.m.; returning the following Tuesday.

Fares between London and Portsmouth and Havant 11s, 7s 6d, and 5s.

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The Cheap Saturday to Monday Seaside Tickets issued on Saturday, 15th May, will also be available to Return up to and including Wednesday, 19th May.

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Printed and Published for the Freemason's Chronicle Publishing Company Limited, by Brother WILLIAM WRAY MORGAN, at 67 Barbican, E.C., Saturday, 8th May 1875.

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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. I.—No. 20. SATURDAY, 15th MAY 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

CONCERNING LORD CARNARVON'S SPEECH AT THE INSTALLATION.

WE refrain from criticising the letter of Bro. W. P. Buchan which appeared last week in our columns. Though the remarks of the Pro Grand Master need no defence, we cannot allow Bro. Buchan's attack to pass without a commentary. Bro. Buchan says that, "according to the records he has perused, our Freemasonry is *not* of great antiquity, for no evidence has been produced of its existence even so recently as two hundred years ago." He probably intends this assertion to be taken in the spirit, not in the letter, for he must have read the record of Ashmole's initiation (A.D. 1646) and the strictures of Dr. Plot (A.D. 1686), which prove Freemasonry to have been in active operation two hundred years ago.

Painstaking investigators have of late endeavoured to clear away all rubbish from the history of our Order. Some have made a clean sweep of all which does not bear the word *Freemasonry*, written or printed; others, conceding a certain antiquity to the title, deny that the Freemasonry of to-day is the same thing, and say that whereas we are *speculative*, the earlier Freemasons were *operative only*.

Upon reviewing the vast scientific knowledge of the old artificers, the moral doctrines symbolised by them in stone, and the natural secrets which remain thinly veiled in our ceremonial, we rest convinced that the pregnant symbolism common to them and to us must always have been speculatively applied.

The *name* Freemasonry but not the *system*, might be of modern origin; the *detail* of our Ritual, but not its *tenour* we know to have been altered; symbols may have been degraded or promoted, but their meaning is the same which was understood ages ago.

The nature of a secret Society has not been sufficiently allowed for by some of its critics. The fate of its records was no concern of any State or Municipal body; the chain of its vitality was *oral*, and not written; any significant scrap which may have been recorded, it was the duty of the members to destroy. *The tests applicable to ordinary history are useless with respect to Freemasonry:* we might as well direct a microscope to the stars.

Our case stands thus: Numerous recorded symbols of important truths may be traced back "to a great antiquity —an antiquity ascending into the sphere of immemorial tradition;" their expression and meaning are attested by a variety of independent evidence and by monuments which cannot lie. That these symbols, with the moral doctrines they involve, have been the property of certain associations of artificers in every age, is equally demonstrable. Names may change with language, ceremonies be modified by opinion, formulæ be distorted; but all we can learn of the ceremonies and organisation of the Dionysiacs, the Architectonici, the Steinmetzen, Freemasons, &c. show a relationship which cannot be attributed to chance, whilst their symbols and moral doctrines are so similar that in most respects they appear identical.

Rank and file there must always have been, ignorant of the designs they helped to execute, but the Architects were evidently masters of that speculative symbolism which knits all science into itself, confirming harmonial proportion in both operative and speculative rule. The pyramid was a gigantic symmetry, it was also an instrument of geometry and astronomy. Stonehenge is a marvel of engineering, not less so of mathematical precision as an observatory. More than one ancient edifice displays the two columns of our speculative Temple in such manner as not to be mistaken for anything except those expressly designated in our Lodges. Other significant indications abound. The Architects of King's College, Cambridge (called *Freemasons* upon the building contracts) produced a roof which was the despair of Wren. These we cite to show that scientific secrets were handed down and that, though some are lost their framework survives, which we call SPECULATIVE FREEMASONRY.

There is ampler evidence of the antiquity of our Society than of other institutions which have survived the lapse of time, but the class of evidence is dissimilar. The philosopher will not refuse to admit the force of special proof for special subjects. The sophistry which ignores it, is capable of denying the Christianity of to-day to be a lineal descendant of the early Church.

To conclude—the Church of Rome is an unwilling witness. It brands us as a survival of a sect of the Manichœans.* Being well aware that our system was taught in secret long ere its Pontiffs arrogated a monopoly of moral truth, and that our symbols are keys which unlock the same treasure as does the triple cross, it has never relaxed deadly hostility. Had it the power, it would exterminate us as unsparingly as it did the Waldenses and Albigenses; the cruel sufferings of our brethren in Germany, Spain, Portugal, and Italy are fresh in our remembrance; and only *the secular power* is wanting, to enable our enemy to continue that barbarous persecution, even in the face of the public opinion of an enlightened age.

It would be painful for us to wield a pen in aught that resembles controversy with a Brother who when in Lodge will think with us. Whilst trusting with reverence that the magnitude of objects in the past may not lead us to overlook facts which are before us, we would warn that short sight which discerns only objects in immediate proximity, and for which the glories of the landscape have no existence.

MASONRY AND THE OUTER WORLD.

IT is, perhaps, natural that the Installation of the Grand Master should have attracted much public attention to an Order the scope and aims of which are but little understood by the outer world. The old vulgar misconceptions are, indeed, passing away, but instead of them others are rising up, which, though totally unfounded, may, if not contradicted, pass for truth. Masons, indeed, do not care much for public opinion; they are fully conscious that the principles of the Craft are strictly in accord with religion and morality, and they do not trouble themselves to meet or refute all the idle rumours to which the uninitiated have given currency. It is, however, our duty, as Masonic journalists, to notice anything which may be of interest to the Craft, and it has been our pleasure recently to quote opinions of the press in reference to the Installation ceremony, which, in some degree, reflect the prevailing ideas in the popular mind. We might, indeed, have quoted coarser diatribes than those of the *Saturday Review*, but it is not necessary to search the sink-holes of journalism for opinions. The general tone of the public mind is highly favourable to the claims of Masonry, as a valuable institution for the promotion of charitable objects and fraternal feelings amongst mankind. Yet, in some quarters an im-

* See *Cuccagni (Abbé) Dissertazione, Che la Setta dei Liberi Muratori è una Diramazione, una Propaggine, un Ramo della Setta dei Manichæi;* and other documents.

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pression appears to prevail that Masons are primarily a dining body—that they meet to dine and toast each other in bumpers, and that the charity of which the Order boasts is a secondary object with the great mass of the Fraternity. Mr. Heckethorn, in his work on secret societies, has the impudence to say that Freemasons are a vain and frivolous body, much addicted to dining out, and utterly deficient in mental endowments. This charge would be laughable if it were not advanced seriously by an author who affects to have studied the Order with some attention. We do not know whether Mr. Heckethorn has ever been initiated. We are inclined to think that he is one of the outside world; and if he is, his judgment, merely based, as it is, upon what he has read in the public press, is as false as it is silly. We have referred, recently, at length in these columns to the great charitable and educational work which the Order is doing in this country, and we need not now repeat ourselves for the purpose of refuting this trenchant critic. We are perfectly well assured that practical Masonry is in no need of defenders; but when we are charged with vanity, and with a general deficiency in mental culture, we scarcely know whether such sweeping and groundless assertions are worthy of a serious reply. If Masons were in the habit of parading the insignia of the Order in public, they might, with some show of reason, be charged with vanity and frivolity, but the trappings of State are strictly confined to the seclusion of the Lodge, and if we are indeed vain, the gratification of our vanity is confined to a narrow circle. The Lodge is the only field for the display of ribbons and medals, and a high functionary, or, as the *Saturday* sneeringly puts it, "a Grand something or other," if he has no rank in society, is plain Mr. Jones or Smith, as the case may be, as soon as he returns to the outer world. We might have supposed the fact that Masonry comprises a large number of members who are remarkable for their mental endowments would have been known to Mr. Heckethorn, and that his native modesty, if he has any, would have restrained him from making a charge which betrays his own emptiness of mind. The man who ventures to call any large section of his fellow creatures fools, must either be a gloomy cynic and misanthrope, or a very silly person; we are inclined to think he is the latter.

But writers nearer home have taken the trouble to make vague charges against the brotherhood, which, in consequence of their vagueness, do not admit of any detailed reply. A portion of the press seems to be of opinion that it is a safe and proper thing to indulge in sneers, or to assume a patronising tone whenever the subject of Masonry turns up. The *Times*, for example, is a conspicuous offender in this respect, and its remarks upon the Installation ceremony drew from us a few words of criticism, which we fancy very accurately characterised its general tone and policy with reference to the Fraternity. It cannot afford to ignore us altogether. The Order is too important to be passed by in silence, but it can patronise us, and the patronage of the *Times* is somewhat irritating. If it has any specific charges to bring against Masonry, we shall be glad to hear them. If it is of opinion that we fail in our duties as private citizens, or if, in spite of its protestations to the contrary, it is secretly of opinion that the Order on the Continent is generally used as a political machine, we shall be glad to meet the great thunderer on its own ground. Indeed, we shall be very glad to encounter those of our critics who indulge in occasional sneers at the Craft, if they will be good enough to tell us what serious objections they have to advance. We do not intend to permit any grave imputation to be passed over in silence; but the misfortune is that our critics will not condecend to be serious. They attempt to conceal their ignorance under a cloud of words, and appear to imagine that surmise or mild abuse will pass for argument. Laughter at what appears to be the grotesque side of Masonry is no doubt harmless enough, and no Englishman who is worthy of the name was ever yet turned aside from a serious purpose by so weak a weapon as ridicule. We are a sturdy people, and do not mind a little banter, and, with regard to Masons, we may say, as we have said before, that they are by no means thin skinned. It takes a great deal to put them out. They have never yet expressed the slightest inkling of annoyance at the flattering but grotesque imitations of the ceremonial of the Order in which some of the more important of the friendly societies indulge. If the Oddfellows or Foresters think that the practical work for which they are banded together can be best conducted in secret assemblies, and with an array of signs and passwords, Masons are the last persons in the world who would feel inclined to throw stones at them. Fair play is the watchword of Englishmen, and we, who profess to be gentlemen, should be the last to imitate the snobbish cynicism of the *Saturday Review*. We do not attack any section of the outer world, and if we complain of misrepresentation, our complaints are primarily grounded on the fact that our critics will not step into the arena of fair discussion. If Masonry is too strong for serious argument, it certainly is not vulnerable to the shafts of ridicule.

But we occasionally meet in society with persons who are anxious enough to know all that we can tell them of the scope and aims of the Order, and who profess to be willing enough to submit themselves as candidates for initiation, if we can prove to their satisfaction that their worldly interests will be advanced thereby. We need not say that these persons are not of the class who make useful and zealous Masons. The moment a man, apparently anxious for information, talks of his personal interests, we have done with him. Masonry has little or nothing to do with personal interests. It may, indeed, happen that a man of business, who has become a Mason from the purest motives, finds that from a merely selfish point of view he has acted wisely. The principles of brotherhood which are cherished by us, teach us all to help one another. But no Mason, we take it, would care to give the fraternal grip to a man who thought only of selfish interests. We demand some show of disinterested generosity on the part of those who are ambitious to join our ranks. In an age of frivolity Masonry is one of the few institutions which is guided by great moral principles. Our theological critics would perhaps do well to remember this when writing their diatribes against the Order. Mgr. Dupanloup, the celebrated Bishop of Orleans, has recently written a pamphlet, in which he declares that Freemasonry is not only the radical negation of Christianity, but of all kinds of religion, as well as of social order, political liberty and universal peace. This is trenchant criticism indeed, and, like most reckless statements, it is at once answered by conspicuous facts which are known to all the world. Marshal MacMahon, for example, to say nothing of numbers of illustrious Frenchmen whose names we might mention, is a Mason. The Bishop therefore has virtually asserted that the President of the French Republic is an enemy of religion and social order. Our quick witted neighbours will not be slow to characterise an absurdity so gross as this, and the bishop's ill-advised pamphlet will possibly do infinitely more damage to the cause he has at heart than it can ever inflict upon the Craft. A reckless statement of this kind never emanates from a secular opponent. The Church, however, must be permitted the privilege of selecting its own weapons; and if its champions choose to indulge in palpable misstatements, which refute themselves, it is scarcely our business to attempt the conversion of enemies who, for the purposes of controversy, can evolve an ideal Fraternity out of the depths of their own inner consciousness.

THE "NEW ATLANTIS."

THERE are those who think the great Lord Bacon may have had in his mind the Society of Freemasons when he wrote his *New Atlantis*; that, in fact, the Society or Order of Solomon's House or the College of Six Days' Work, therein described, is meant to be typical of our Order. Much, of course, is added in the description of this College or Society which belongeth not to Masonry, yet is there enough to justify, or, at all events, to excuse the idea. We bear in mind, of course, the view that the present era of speculative Masonry dates from 1717 only, while Lord Bacon died in 1626, or nearly a century before. But it is reasonable to suppose that speculative Masonry did not spring into being suddenly, as, in the Greek Mythology, did Minerva form the brain of Zeus. It is quite within the limits of probability that an era of speculative and operative Masonry combined, preceded that of speculative Masonry pure and simple. The learned philosopher John Locke, in a letter to Thomas Earl of Pembroke, under date 6th May 1696, on the subject of an old Masonic manuscript remarks, "I know not what effect the sight of this old paper may have upon your Lordship: but for my own part, I cannot deny that it has so much raised my curiosity,

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as to induce me to enter myself into the Fraternity, which I am determined to do (if I may be admitted,) the next time I go to London, and that will be shortly." Whether John Locke ever became a Freemason is one question, but the freedom with which he speaks of "entering" himself "into the Fraternity," as though it were no uncommon occurrence for men who were not operative Masons to be so entered, must be a fact of singular virtue in the minds of all who date the speculative origin of our Order anterior to 1717. Again, it is most unlikely that Payne, Antony Sayer, Desaguliers, Anderson, and others, who were the leading spirits in bringing about the Revival of our Order, became Masons at the time of such revival. Findel, no mean authority, says, at p. 136 of his History, "This, then," —that is, the reorganisation of our Order—"took place forthwith, as several brethren united for this purpose, among whom were—King, Calvert, Lumley, Maddens, &c. At their head was Dr. J. Theophilus Desaguliers,• • • George Payne, a learned antiquarian, was his chief supporter, as was also Dr. James Anderson, a Scotch Presbyterian minister in London." Then there is the well known extract from the diary of Elias Ashmole: "I was made a Freemason at Warrington, Lancashire, with Colonel Henry Mainwaring, of Kertlingham, in Cheshire, by Mr. Richard Penket, the Warden, and the Fellow Crafts, on the 16th October 1646." And be it remembered that Lord Bacon's death had occurred only *twenty* years previously. Far be it for us, however, to plunge into, probably, an interminable argument as to the origin of speculative Masonry. Our purpose is far simpler. We desire only to indicate the grounds of that belief, which, at the outset, we said some people accepted, to the effect that in the *New Atlantis*, Lord Bacon may have had speculative Masonry in view when he pictured therein the Society of Solomon's House.

The early part of this fable is briefly told. A ship on its way from Peru to China and Japan is driven northwards by stress of weather, till it sights an unknown land. It enters, at length, "into a good haven, being the port of a fair city," and the crew, many of whom are sick, are all eager to land. But they are forbidden. A boat puts off, and one of the natives presents a scroll with this inscription: "Land ye not, none of you, and provide to be gone from this coast within sixteen days, except you have further time given you: meanwhile, if you want fresh water, or victual, or help for your sick, or that your ship needeth repair, write down your wants, and you shall have that which belongeth to mercy." Ultimately they are permitted to land, and are established in the strangers' house, everything being done to make them as comfortable as possible. During the early part of their stay they are visited more than once by men of eminence, who tell them, as much as it is permitted to tell, of the history of the country. Their first visitor is a priest, who is also governor of the strangers' house. He concludes his hospitable message with these words: "He was a priest, and looked for a priest's reward, which was our brotherly love, and the good of our souls and bodies." The same governor visits them the day following, and invites inquiries, prefacing his invitation with these words: "We of this island of Bensalem (for so they call it in their language) have this, that by means of our solitary situation, and the laws of secrecy which we have for our travellers, and our rare admission of strangers, we know well most part of the habitable world, and are ourselves unknown. Therefore, because he that knoweth least is fittest to ask questions, it is more reason, for the entertainment of the time, that ye ask me questions than that I ask you." He then relates, at their request, how Christianity was introduced into the island by Bartholomew the Apostle. The following day the governor re-visits them, and enters, at length, into a history of the country, but especially how it is the people know of other countries, being, at the same time, themselves unknown. He tells them how "there reigned in this island, about one thousand nine hundred years ago, a king, whose memory of all others we most adore, not superstitiously, but as a divine instrument, though a mortal man; his name was Solomon, and we esteem him as the lawgiver of our nation. This King had a large heart, inscrutable for good, and was wholly bent to make his kingdom and people happy." He, finding the country large and fertile enough for the maintenance of its people, and wishing to perpetuate its happy and flourishing estate, "therefore amongst his other fundamental laws of this kingdom he did ordain the interdicts and prohibitions which we have touching the entrance of strangers, which, at that time, though it was after the calamity of America, was frequent, doubting novelties and commixture of manners." Yet he likewise "preserved all points of humanity, in taking order and making provision for the relief of strangers distressed." It was this king who erected and instituted the Order or Society of Solomon's House—dedicated to the study of the works and creatures of God. This,—namely that the house is denominate of the King of "the Hebrews,"—the governor says, "maketh me think that our King finding himself to symbolise with that King (Solomon) of the Hebrews, which lived many years before him, honoured him with the title of this foundation. And I am the rather induced to be of this opinion, for that I find in ancient records this Order or Society is sometimes called Solomon's House, and sometimes the College of the Six Days' Works, whereby I am satisfied that our excellent King had learned from the Hebrews that God had created the world, and all that therein is, within six days, and therefore, he instituted that house for the finding out of the true nature of all things, whereby God might have the more glory in the workmanship of them, and men the more fruit in their use of them, did give it also that second name." But though this King thus forbade intercourse with other nations, he ordained that every twelve years two ships should go forth either carrying a mission of three fellows or brethren of Solomon's House," for the purpose of obtaining "knowledge of the affairs and state of those countries to which they were designed, and especially of the sciences, arts, manufactures and inventions of all the world; and withal to bring unto us books, instruments, and patterns in every kind." The ships carried food and treasure for buying such things and rewarding such persons as they might think fit. "Now," adds the governor, "for me to tell you, how the vulgar sort of mariners are constrained from being discovered at land, and how they that must be put on shore for any time, colour themselves under the names of other nations, and to what places those voyages have been designed, and what places of rendezvous are appointed for the new missions, and the like circumstances of the practice, I may not do it, neither is it much to your desire. But thus you see we maintain a trade not for gold, silver, or jewels, nor for silks, nor for spices, nor any other commodity of matter, but only for God's first creature, which was light; to have light, I say, of the growth of all parts of the world." Next follows an account of a reverent custom, known as the feast of the family, to which two of the company are invited. This is granted to any man that shall live to see thirty persons descended of his body and alive together, and all above three years old to make the feast, which is done at the cost of the State. We cannot fully describe the manner of this custom. Suffice it to say that the father of the family, who is called "the tirsan," two days before, chooseth three of his friends, and, with the assistance of the governor of the city or place where the feast is to be celebrated, and in the presence of all his family who are summoned to attend him, they consult together as to the good estate of the family. "There, if there be any discord or suits between any of the family, they are compounded and appeased; there, if any of the family be distressed or decayed, order is taken for their relief, and competent means to live; there, if any be subject to vice or take ill courses, they are reproved and censured." On the feast day the "tirsan" occupies a chair on an half pace—or dais—at the upper end of the room, his family ranging themselves against the wall at his back, and upon the return of the half pace, in the order of age and regardless of sex. Over this chair is "a slate," round or oval, and of ivy curiously wrought with silver and silks. Then enters a taratan, or herald, with two pages on either side, one carrying a roll of parchment, the other "a cluster of grapes of gold with a long foot or stalk." The herald, with three courtesies or inclinations, advances to the foot of the half-pace, reads aloud the scroll, which is the King's charter, signed with the King's seal, the tirsan standing up the while, supported by two of his sons. Then he giveth the charter to the tirsan, and likewise the cluster of grapes, "which is of gold, both the stalk and the grapes, but the grapes are daintily enamelled"—if the males of the family be the greater number, purple with a little sun set on the top; if the females, greenish yellow with a crescent. Then follows the dinner, at which he is served by the males only of his family, the females standing about him, and at the tables below the halfpace are placed the invited guests.

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At the end a hymn is sung, generally in praise of Adam, Noah, and Abraham, and a thanksgiving for the nativity of our Saviour offered. The tirsan having previously given the cluster of grapes to that one of his sons he has chosen to live in his house with him, and who is hence known as "the son of the vine," and having banquetted, retires for the purpose of private prayer, and on re-entering blesses each one of his descendants both male and female, saying, "Son of Bensalem, or daughter of Bensalem, thy father saith it, the man by whom thou hast breath and life speaketh the word; the blessing of the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace, and the Holy Dove be upon thee and make the days of thy pilgrimage good and many. "Then, if there be any—not above two—sons of eminent merit and virtue, the tirsan presents each of them with "a jewel made in the figure of an ear of wheat," and, laying his arm over their shoulders says, "Sons, it is well you are born, give God the praise, and persevere to the end."

Next the spokesman of the company makes the acquaintance of one Joabin, a Jew, "for they have some few stirps of Jews yet remaining among them, whom they leave to their own religion." This Jew is a wise and learned man, and after discoursing on the laws and customs as to marriage among the people of Bensalem, he remarks, "and they (the people of Bensalem) say that reverence of a man's self is, next religion, the chiefest bridle of all vices." But Joabin is suddenly called away in order to prepare to entertain one of the fathers of Solomon's House, whose coming is announced, though the cause thereof is kept secret. But he promises to give them a good place to witness the formal entrance into the city of this important personage, of whom the inhabitants had seen none for a dozen years. A description of the visitor, and the procession that attends him, is given, but, more fortunate still for the strangers, the company are informed, a few days later that the father is anxious to see them and that he will hold private conference with one of them, meaning also to give them his blessing. Accordingly, on the appointed day the father imparts to one of them "a relation of the true state of Solomon's House," setting forth firstly the end of its foundation—which is the knowledge of causes and secret motions of things, and the enlarging of the bounds of human empire, to the effecting of all things possible;" secondly, "the preparations and instruments," the brethren have for their works; thirdly, "the several employments and functions whereto the fellows are assigned;" and, fourthly, "the ordinances and rites" which they observe. For the preparations and instruments we must refer our readers to the work itself, as the description would occupy too much space. The employments and functions include, first of all, twelve that sail into foreign countries under the names of other nations (concealing their own), in order to bring back books, abstracts, patterns. These are called "merchants of Light." There are three who collect the experiments in all books—these are "depredators;" three "that collect the experiments of all mechanical arts, and also of liberal sciences, and also of practices which are not brought into acts." These are the "mystery men." Then there are three "pioneers" or "miners," who try new experiments; three "compilers," who "draw the experiments of the former four into titles and tables, to give the better light for the drawing of observations and axioms out of them;" three "dowery men" or "benefactors," who look into the experiments of their fellows with the view to extracting from them "things of use and practice for men's life and knowledge, as well for works as for plain demonstration of causes, means of natural divinations, and the easy and clear discovery of the virtues and parts of bodies;" three "lamps" who take care out of the former labours and collections "to direct new experiments of a higher light, more penetrating into nature than the former;" three "inoculators" who execute and report the experiments so directed; "three interpreters of nature who raise the former discoveries by experiments into greater observations, axioms, and aphorisms," and lastly, "novices and apprentices, that the succession of the former employed men do not fail," besides attendants and servants, male and female. "And this," adds the father, "we do also; we have consultations which of the inventions and experiences which we have discovered shall be published, and which not; and take all an oath of secresy for the concealing of those which we think meet to keep secret, though some of those we do reveal sometimes to the State, and some not." They have galleries for their ordinances and rites, and "certain hymns and services, which we say daily, of land and thanks to God for his marvellous works; and forms of prayers imploring his aid and blessing for the illumination of our labours, and the turning them into good and holy uses." The father, then invoking a blessing on the one to whom he had imparted this relation of the state of Soloman's House, and giving him permission to publish it to other nations, departs, leaving, however, a bounty of two thousand ducats for the company of the vessel which had found so grand a haven of refuge in the time of their distress.

With this interview the fable of the *New Atlantis* ends. Whether Lord Bacon may or may not have had Freemasonry in his mind when he wrote this work, of which the foregoing is a summary, is a question we leave to other and more inquiring minds to solve. But it cannot be doubted that between the system above propounded and the system of Masonry are many strong points of agreement.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS,

THE second Meeting of the Board of Stewards for the Seventy-seventh Anniversary Festival was held on Wednesday, 12th May 1875, at Freemasons' Hall, at 5 o'clock. The chair was taken by Bro. Rucker P.G.S., and the business consisted of receiving a report from the sub-Committee appointed to inquire into the facilities for holding the Festival at the Alexandra Palace; to consider the arrangements for the Festival; to appoint Ladies' Stewards; and general business.

At the former meeting, held on Tuesday, 27th April, the following brethren were unanimously elected officers of the Board of Stewards: President, Right Hon. Lord Balfour, of Burleigh, P.G.S.W.; Acting-President, W. Bro. J. A. Rucker P.G.S.D.; Acting Vice-President, W. Bro. J. M. P. Montagu D.P.G.M. Dorset; Vice-Presidents, the Vice-Patrons and Vice-Presidents of the Institution; Present and Past Grand Officers; Present and Past Grand Stewards; Present and Past Provincial Grand officers; Hon. Treasurer, W. Bro. R. B. Webster, No. 1320 and P.M. 140; Hon. Secretary, W. Bro. Frederick Binckes P.G. Steward, Secretary to the Institution, who read the minutes.

It was resolved that the sum to be deposited by each Steward to the fund for defraying the expenses of the Festival be £2 2s; this to include dinner ticket for Steward; and 15s for each lady's ticket. That the musical arrangements of the Festival be referred to a sub-committee, consisting of the President, Acting-President and Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Bros. Dubosc, Levy and Rosenthal; and that they report their proceedings to the next meeting. That it be left to the Hon. Sec. to provide badges and wands for the Stewards, and the other usual requisites for the Festival. All these propositions were carried.

It was resolved that in the opinion of this meeting, it is desirable that the ensuing Anniversary Festival be held at the Alexandra Palace. That the following brethren be a committee to enquire as to the facilities and arrangements for giving effect to this resolution, and to report to the next meeting of the Board:—Bros. I. Abrahams, J. Bingemann, H. Dubosc sen., W. R. Marsh, C. J. Morgan, S. Rosenthal, T. J. Sabine, John Seex, W. Stevens, H. Stewart, G. W. Verry, J. Wordsworth. These brethren having visited the Palace, announced that the arrangements for the holding of the Festival were satisfactory. It was then proposed that the brethren and the ladies should dine together, the dinner to consist of hot fish, soup, and vegetables, supplemented by a cold collation. H.R.H. the M.W.G.M. had expressed himself satisfied with these arrangements, provided the brethren assembled should not, beyond the precincts of the rooms, shew any display of Masonic clothing. Bro. F. Binckes, Hon. Sec. then announced that it was intended the Festival should take place on the 30th of June, but he had been informed by Bros. Bertram and Roberts that the Licensed Victuallers' Dinner had been previously arranged for that day, consequently it was proposed that the Festival should take place on the 7th July, subject to the approval of the M.W. the Pro G.M. the Earl of Carnarvon. It was also moved and carried that the brethren wear Masonic clothing, and also appear in morning dress, and the ladies in bonnets. The foregoing resolutions having been regularly proposed and agreed to, Bro. H. M. Levy proposed, and Bro. Wilkins seconded that a vote of thanks be accorded to Bro. J. B. Rucker P.G.S., acting President, for the able manner he had filled the chair, not only on this occasion, but at all times. The next meeting is announced for the 2nd of June. The following brethren were present, viz.:—R. B. Webster 140, H. Hasker P.G.J.D. Hants, J. A. Rucker P.G.D., J. Bingemann 55, J. Clever 12 and 171, J. Compton 55, J. Waterworth 60, C. W. Gray 22, J. H. Harmsworth 1178, J. J. H. Wilkins 73, S. Rosenthal, W. Lane 28, R. R. Davis 256, Wm. Stephens 1365, Fred. Adlard 7, J. Winkfield P.G.J.W. Berks, F. R. Vine 173, J. H. Leggett 145, Henry Venn, C. Barker 834, W. H. Farnfield 907, H. Braum 766, C. J. Morgan 8, W. C. Parsons 180, E. F. Foord 404, Watson Surr 91, and H. M. Levy P.M. 188.

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ODE

On the Installation of H.R.H. Prince of Wales

AS MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER,

AT THE

ALBERT HALL, 28th APRIL 1875.

BY BRO. WALTER SPENCER, OF LODGE 263.

REMOTEST Past hath left its prints sublime:
Its ruined Temples everywhere remain,
Admonishing through change of place and time
By monuments not thus bequeathed in vain,
That all things here must suffer change—save TRUTH.
Like sand by sand earth's crust is worn away,
For Continent and ocean change, as youth
Changes to age, as night succeeds to-day.

Review the vanished Empires of our earth
Which budded, ripened—and then faded out
Until, down-trodden in a wintry dearth,
Their very names become the sport of doubt!
Reckon the leaders who have toiled and wrought
To leave their marks on Hist'ry's page—in vain,
Whose cherished visions have been brought to nought,
Whose praises never can be sung again!
Think of the great thoughts that have flashed to light;
Thoughts to inspire the coming time and mind,
Whose authors rest neglected, in the night
Which gave a brighter dawn unto mankind!
Even Religion—see how changed at last
The Creeds that millions clung to in the Past!

Is there an Ideal in whose spirit-youth
There lives enshrined an everlasting Truth?
Is there a ray beaming through Hist'ry's night
Which emanated from the primal Light
Revealing antient symbols, that reflect
The fiat of the world's Great Architect?

Yes! Nature's Truths extending through the Past
As through the Present, shame Man's changeful tale;
The antient Landmarks founded deep, to last,
Those primal Truths in graven symbols veil.
Our allegory claims them for its own,
Echoing a voice which, laden with their lore
Through ages gone, repeats in earnest tone
Their solemn formulæ for evermore
And teaches Masons, an immortal lot
In "Universal Charity" to found,
Whose centre may be struck at every spot
And whose circumference no space can bound.

Those Truths, to us in allegory told,
With Light in the beginning had their birth;
The handed wisdom of the wise of old
Their moral treasure guarded for the earth.
And ever with the Sun, that *from the East*
Will *to'ards the West* its living radiance shed,
The sacred flame to glow has never ceased
Which for our use departed Brethren fed
That we might tend it in our turn: the while
They numbered years in stone on Carnac's bed,
Recorded Seasons on Stonehenge's pile,
Or named the Stars from off the Pyramid.

We work by the inexorable Laws
Which the great Cosmos owns for rule of right,
Nor waste our strength upon the quips and flaws
Over which some dispute and bigots fight!
We gaze up at the canopies of stone
That from the ground aspire to reach the skies,
And (claiming antient Masons' art our own
By which our spiritual temples rise)
Acknowledging a great Ideal divine
Embodied thus by Masons' toil and sighs
Feel, that the altars which those fanes enshrine
Are hallowed by the thoughts we symbolise!

FREEMASONS work for love unto the art,
Not for the hire alone to serve the Lord;
Infusing fervour into every part
Which grows an earnest of our rich reward.
For at the last, our earthly labours done,
If worthy, the Great Architect's commands
Will raise each like a proved and perfect stone
Into a Temple builded not with hands.

And here—the heirs unto the men of old
Will emulate their fervency and zeal:
Joining in courses of symmetric mould
To strengthen and adorn the commonweal.
Though dying dogmas shun the Mason's light
Nor brook the Level laid upon the priest,
Here may the FREE of every creed unite
Where one rule tries the greatest and the least!

The SONS OF TOLERANCE assemble here,
Christians or Jews, Parsees or Muselmen.
The same Great Architect we all revere
With those of yore, bonded by Truth as then.

Under our PRINCE a living dome we build
The polished keystone of whose crown is he;
And each for ever in the Temple filled
The Masons'-word seals thrice—

FIDELITY!!!

For God said:

"In STRENGTH will I establish this mine house TO STAND FIRM FOR EVER."

CORRESPONDENCE.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.

—:o:—

THE PRESS AND THE CRAFT.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR,—Like yourself, I have been rather amused at the sudden, and, in some cases, somewhat forced enthusiasm exhibited by many of the leading journals, in connection with the recent Installation of the Prince of Wales as our M.W.G.M. The fact of a Prince of the Blood Royal having been elected to this exalted position will, no doubt, account for this display of feeling towards us, for what Royalty not only honours, but belongs to, must have some elements of good in it. Accordingly the *Times* is grandly condescending to our Order. It is playful at the outset, but its playfulness has something elephantine about it. The merits of a Society which, in its revived form, has been before the world for over a century and a half can hardly have been unknown to the "leading journal." But while it has passed with scant notice, or no notice whatever, the festivals of our great charities, it now finds itself, as it were, constrained to record the grand ceremonial of Wednesday. Otherwise, the sad spectacle would have been offered to the world of the lesser lights of journalism taking the shine out, to use a familiar phrase, of their more brilliant compeer. The *Daily Telegraph*, as might have been expected, is flippant for, "It is its nature to." It affects also a certain air of mystery, in order, no doubt, to reconcile its description of the scene both inside and outside the Royal Albert Hall, with the well-known secrecy of the Craft. And as mystery is thought to imply more or less of fussiness, the picture was vouchsafed us of Grand Stewards and Officers ecstatically advancing without apparent rhyme or reason to some unknown point, and then subsiding listlessly into their seats again. Had it recounted the exact number of times that any one of the Grand Stewards looked wistfully up at the ceiling, the effect would have been equally impressive. Genial Mr. Punch anticipated the event, *more suo*, with much kindliness. It, too, "cut" a joke or two at our Order, but his jokes were neither elephantine nor silly. You have already commented on two recent articles in the *Saturday Review*, I need say, therefore, but little as to your remarks. Your reply to, or commentary on the second of these articles is one of the most admirable specimens of leader writing I have seen. I read not a few papers in the course of a week, and, in common with a great many other people, both Masons and others, I rejoice "muchly" that you have administered so able a rebuke to the priggish impudence of the *Saturday Review*. A man, according to its ideal, should be a trained and educated cur—cynic is too respectable a term—ready to snap and snarl at everything that is decent and of good repute. The *Standard* seems to me to have acted towards us in the manner most becoming an important journal, and not only as regards this particular event, but generally. Festivals at which between £6,000 and £7,000 are subscribed towards the support of the indigent members of our Order, or of the children of deceased members, receive a degree of notice not unworthy such grand illustrations of charity. In its account of Wednesday's ceremony it was neither condescending, as was the *Times*, nor flippant, as the *Daily Telegraph*, nor impertinent, as the *Saturday Review*. It treated the event in a plain unsophisticated style, and I think you, Sir, and the Order generally, will not fail to recognise the value of this difference of treatment.

Yours fraternally, T.

SELECTION OF CANDIDATES.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The event of the day in Freemasonry, viz. the Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as M.W.G.M. will, no doubt, cause a great accession to our Order, but it should be the duty of every brother, as custodian of our Masonic honour, to see that no one enter our ranks unless he be of good character and strict morals. A Mason should be one to whom the burdened heart can pour forth its sorrows, and a little caution is all that is required in selecting good and worthy men. Many country Lodges hold meetings, wherein the merits of candidates for ballot are discussed, and if not found suitable it is suggested to the proposers and seconders that they should withdraw the names. By this means that great stigma, blackballing, is avoided. It is easy to get into the Order, but difficult to exclude members. Lodges, where brotherly love should exist, are frequently scenes of discord, which is oftentimes caused by one brother, who, knowing our ritual perfectly, and having a thorough knowledge of our Book of Constitutions, will shew that a little learning is dangerous. Good and influential Lodges have nearly been broken up by the acts of one who ought never to have been introduced, and it is to be hoped that brethren will now more than ever be guarded in introducing into the Order those whose characters will not bear the fullest investigation.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

A PAST MASTER.

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ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

THE second of our Great Anniversary Festivals, that of the Girls' School, took place at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, on Tuesday evening last, under the presidency of the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor of London, R. W. Brother David Henry Stone, Junior Grand Warden, supported by a large assemblage of distinguished Masons from London and the various Provincial Lodges. The banquet was served under the personal superintendence of Bro. Francatelli, and reflected much credit upon his skill as a caterer. The Lord Mayor, on rising to propose the health of "Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen," was most enthusiastically received. He briefly proposed the toast, which was very loyally responded to. The next toast was "His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master, Patron and President of the Institution. The Princess of Wales, Patroness, and the other Members of the Royal Family." The Chairman said this was the first time he had had the pleasure of proposing the toast in its present form. It was gratifying to all present to know that His Royal Highness the W.M.G.M. was President of the Institution. All agreed that the Prince and the Duke of Connaught were good Masons, while the Princess of Wales had endeared herself to every Englishman. "The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, Most Worshipful Pro. Grand Master," was next proposed, the Chairman saying he had only to refer to the way in which the Earl had performed his duty, at the Installation, under the painful circumstances of his late bereavement, to commend the toast to all present. "The Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers present and past," coupled with the name of Lt.-Col. Burdett, P.S.G.W. Middlesex, followed, and was briefly responded to by Col. Burdett. The Earl of Jersey then rose, and stated that he was privileged, with the consent of the Lord Mayor, to propose the next toast. It required no words of his to commend it to their notice: it was the health of "The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor of London, Bro. David Henry Stone, Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden of England, and Chairman of the day." They were all under great obligations to the Chairman, whose duties in the great City occupied so much of his time, for being present to-night. The Lord Mayor responded, and referred to his appointment to the Junior Warden's Chair by the M.W.G.M. He said that he considered the honour due to the Corporation more than to himself as an individual member of that body. He then proposed the toast of the evening—"Success to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls," and the "Health of the Treasurer, Bro. S. Tomkins," referring in eulogistic terms to the efficiency of the training carried out at the Institution. He had advocated the cause of many charities, but none with greater pleasure. He had had a recent opportunity of judging for himself, and all he had witnessed on the occasion of his visit when the prizes were distributed had impressed him with the value of the Institution as an educational establishment. There were 149 or 150 girls in the School, but why should they not double this number? and to do this they must have more funds; they had a nest egg, it was true, but a time of adversity might come, and he urged all present to provide against such a calamity. Brother Tomkins replied to the toast, and then called on Bro. R. W. Little, Secretary of the Institution, to read the amount on his several lists, which amounted in the aggregate to £7,269 3s, a result which was received with enthusiasm by all present. The remaining toasts, viz., "The Vice-Patrons, Vice-Presidents, Trustees, various Committees, and Medical Officers;" "The other Masonic Charities, and success to them, viz. The Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution;" "The Stewards of the day, Bro. John B. Monckton, President; thanking them for their services;" "The Ladies; with thanks for their attendance;" having been duly honoured, the assembled company joined the ladies. The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. Kerr Gedge, who was assisted by Miss Josephine Sherrington, Madame Thaddeus Wells, Miss Florence Winn, Madame Varley Liebe; Bros. Hodges, Wilford Morgan, Winn, and De Lacey. Bro. W. H. Thomas presiding at the Pianoforte. Amongst those present were Bros. Sir A. Woods G.D.C., Fenn Assistant G.D.C., J. Henry G.S., Rev. C. J. Martyn P.G. Chaplain, J. Rucker P.G.D., Sutcliffe P.G.M., H. Browse P.G.D., J. Nunn P.G.S.B., J. Symonds P.G.D., Alderman and Sheriff Ellis, F. R. Vine, Private Secretary to the Lord Mayor, Mr. Paas P.G.S., J. B. Monckton, President to the Board of General Purposes. J. Boyd P.G.P., J. Coutts P.G.P., P. Matthews, T. Cubitt P.G.P., Rev. J. Vaughan, J. L. Thomas, Jabez Hogg P.G.D., H. Levander, E. P. Albert Asst. G.P., B. Head G.P.D., Mason P.G.S.B., Hyde Pullen, P.G.D., Little, Binckes, Terry, Dodson 188, J. S. Sweasey, &c.

We subjoin the several Steward's Lists, together with the numbers of the Lodges and Chapters contributing, and the amount forwarded by each, to the above Institution:—

LONDON.	£	s	d
T. W. White, Grand Steward ...	34	13	0
Lodge			
1 Bro. J. Paterson, Alderman	52	10	0
2 „ Thomas Greetham ...	44	2	0
4 „ J. S. H. McEwan ...	51	9	0
5 „ Fras. Morgan ...	60	18	0
8 „ T. Lewis Geiger ...	19	19	0
10 „ Rev. T. Cochrane ...	57	15	0
11 „ E. J. Bradstreet ...	32	0	6
14 „ A. J. Bristow ...	21	0	0
15 „ Henry Martin ...	88	4	0
18 „ J. F. Huggins	34	13	0
21 „ J. K. Stead	48	6	0
R. A. 21 Bro. Griffiths Smith...	17	17	0
Lodge			
22 Bro. G. Phythian	52	10	0
23 „ Henry Venn	10	10	0
27 „ J. B. Poole	73	10	6
28 „ Chas. Bell	37	16	0
33 „ Wm. Sugg	78	4	6
34 „ H. Dubose	15	15	0
46 „ Dr. I. J. Paul	24	3	0
59 „ Fredk. Lough	115	10	0
65 „ E. C. Mather	30	9	0
66 „ J. A. Rucker	52	10	0
91 „ T. B. Marshall ...	40	19	0
95 „ Geo. S. Ayres ...	39	18	0
99 „ G. D. Stilgoe ...	87	3	0
101 „ Thomas Beard ...	16	16	0
143 „ G. N. Strawbridge ...	72	9	0
145 „ Geo. Parkes ...	31	10	0
162 „ G. C. Capper	30	9	0
174 „ Chas. Lacey	109	4	0
177 „ W. J. Ferguson ...	31	10	0
179 „ Jas. Kew	10	0	0
180 „ A. Cameron	23	12	0
180 „ W. H. Pannell ...	26	5	0
181 „ W. Sharratt	29	8	0
185 „ J. H. Ross	52	10	0
185 „ J. Constable	420	12	0

LONDON—continued.	£	s	d
Lodge			
192 Bro. Geo. Newman	47	5	0
194 „ Dr. R. Fowler... ...	67	4	0
197 „ Geo. Findlay	37	16	0
198 „ H. C. Lambert ...	22	1	0
227 „ Percival Sandford ...	24	3	0
231 „ G. N. Ibbetson ...	28	9	0
235 „ H. Robinson	43	1	0
256 „ J. A. Farnfield ...	37	16	0
259 „ F. W. Ramsay ...	11	11	0
534 „ John Boyd	21	0	0
657 „ W. H. Stevens ...	102	18	0
715 „ J. Clemmans	21	0	0
733 „ J. Cooper	40	0	0
781 „ John Wright	52	10	0
822 „ Percy Trower	52	10	0
860 „ Dr. J. C. White ...	47	5	0
862 „ W. J. Hargrave Jones	29	8	0
907 „ Thos. Griffiths ...	43	1	0
933 „ J. G. Stevens ...	142	16	0
R. A. 1056 Bro. Elias Gottheil ...	31	10	0
Lodge			
1118 Bro. W. E. Blakeway ...	21	0	0
1130 „ J. B. Monckton ...	26	5	0
1196 „ R. H. Pearson... ...	24	13	6
1257 „ Jno. Elliott	24	13	6
1260 „ Geo. Harrison... ...	33	12	0
1328 „ J. L. Thomas	133	7	0
1329 „ E. Clark	48	17	0
1329 „ C. Hammerton ...	10	10	0
1348 „ J. Palmer	174	0	0
1361 „ R. H. Thrupp	44	5	0
1383 „ W. Hyde Pullen ...	170	2	0
1397 „ Dr. J. H. Gilton ...	23	12	6
1425 „ A. H. Longhurst ...	33	1	6
1426 „ N. B. Headon	211	1	0
1471 „ J. L. Mather	49	7	0
1475 „ A. H. Watkins ...	57	15	0
1489 „ W. J. Murlis	120	0	0
1491 „ S. Poynter	118	0	6
1524 „ J. B. Shackleton ...	52	10	0

PROVINCES.	£	s	d
Berkshire and Bucks	75	2	0
Bristol	66	13	6
Cheshire	21	0	0
Derbyshire	10	10	0
Essex	86	6	6
Herts	17	17	0
Kent	142	3	0
Lancashire—East	42	0	0
Ditto West	63	11	0
Lincolnshire	63	0	0
Middlesex	581	19	0
Monmouthshire and South Wales	464	10	0
Oxfordshire, including a donation from Prince Leopold (10 guins.)	52	9	0
North Wales ... ... }	90	6	0
Shropshire ... ... }			
Somersetshire	21	0	0
Suffolk	64	19	6
Surrey	75	13	0
Sussex	77	2	0
Warwickshire	21	0	0
Yorkshire N and E Riding ...	34	13	0
Yorkshire West	580	17	0

MISCELLANEOUS.	£	s	d
J. E. Saunders	10	10	0
W. R. Woodman	10	10	0
Rev. P. M. Holden, Palestine Rose Croix	31	10	0
Capt. Cockle, Red Cross Premier	10	10	0
Wm. Richard, Red Cross, 17 ...	16	16	0
T. W. Morley, M. 144	34	1	0
A. Mansfield	10	10	0
D. Nichols	39	18	0
A. Twyman	10	10	0
E. C. Woodward	16	16	0
J. Mason	15	15	0

FOREIGN.	£	s	d
E. Tyrell Leith, Bombay, 549 ...	21	0	0
Total	7268	3	0

Thirteen Lists to come in.

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PRIZE DAY AT THE GIRLS' SCHOOL.

It is an annual and a wise custom that, preceding a Festival of the Masonic Institutions, those who had consented to act as Stewards should, in conjunction with their friends, have an opportunity of witnessing the noble charity that they have been so zealously working for. It gives them an incentive to place on their respective lists sums of money that, in after years, they may be proud of; they, their wives and children may see the good work that has been done, and feel a pride in what they are doing. The chairman, who acts as president generally, has been selected to give the prizes on these occasions, and this year it has fallen to the lot of one who had been chosen by his fellow-citizens as their chief magistrate. The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Lady Mayoress, who takes a lively interest in the Schools, arrived early on Saturday last, and inspected the building, both expressing their satisfaction at the admirable manner in which all the arrangements were conducted. The company then assembled, and the following programme was most successfully carried out:—

"The Lord is Great"—*Haydn*—16 hands on 4 pianos.
"See the Conquering Hero"—*Handel*—24 hands on 4 pianos.
Recitation—"William Tell"—*Gurney*—Bessie L. Morris.
"Marche aux Flambeaux"—*Scotson Clark*—8 hands on 4 pianos.
Part Song—"The Stars are with the Voyager"—*Hatton*.
Recitation—"The Heart's Charity"—*Eliza Cook*—Mary Young.
Quartette—"Coronation March from Le Prophète"—*Meyerbeer*—16 hands on 4 pianos.
"Invitation à la Valse"—*Weber*—8 hands on 4 pianos.
Recitation—"Louis XI. et François de Paul"—*Delavigne*—Leila Lucy Caparn and Jessie M. Blair.
"Overture to Zampa"—*Herold*—16 hands on 4 pianos.
Part Song—"I know a Bank"—*Horn*.
Solo—"Sonata"—*Hummel*—Florence S. Groves.
Recitation—"Der Taucher"—*Schiller*—Maria L. Flintoft.
"Selection from Preciosa"—*Weber*—16 hands on 4 pianos.

The Lady Mayoress then proceeded to distribute the three principal prizes to the following pupils:—

Maria Louisa Flintoft, £5 for taking Honours in the Cambridge Examination, given annually by Brother William Winn.
Leila Lucy Caparn, the Gold Medal for General Proficiency (Maria Louisa Flintoft having gained it last year), given annually by Brother William Pass, with £5 given annually by Brother William Winn.
Mary Eliza Earle, the Silver Medal for Good Conduct, given annually by the Institution, with £5 given annually by Brother William Winn.

The prizes given annually by the Institution were distributed by the Lord Mayor as under:—

Elizabeth Hutchinson (Pupil Teacher) for Passing Senior Cambridge Examination.

Maria Louisa Flintoft	for	Taking Honours Cambridge Examination.
Leila Lucy Caparn	„	Passing Cambridge Examination.
Lilian Mary Nelson	„	Passing Cambridge Examination.
Florence Sarah Groves	„	Music.
Jessie Maria Blair	„	French.
Mary Alice Estham	„	General Usefulness.
Alice Maud M. Batley	„	General Usefulness.
Amy E. Mills	„	Needlework.
Mary Eliza Earle	„	Needlework.
Ada Gertrude Chapman	„	Machine work.
Lucy Kate Clemence	„	Writing.
Melora F. Goodridge	„	Music.
Frances Harryman	„	General Proficiency 2nd Class.
Katherine Emery	„	General Proficiency 3rd Class.
Catherine J. Scurr	„	General Proficiency 4th Class.
Frances Gardner	„	Good Conduct (among the little girls).

By Brother Joshua Nunn, for Fancy Work:—
Clari R. A. Bindon, Ada Sarah Rose, and Henrietta J. Featherstone.

By Brother Raynham Stewart, for Dictation:—

Mabel H. Crampton	1st Class.
Melora F. Goodridge	2nd Class.
Harriett Cartwright	3rd Class.
Mary C. A. Sargant	4th Class.

By Brother Rev. P. H. E. Brette, D.D., for French:—Leila Lucy Caparn.
By Mrs. Brette, for Music:—Louisa Hole.
By Mrs. Crick, for Elocution:—Florence S. Groves, Mary Young, and Bessie L. Morris.
By Brother John M. Clabon, for Good Conduct:—Josephine L. Bignell and Ada Kate Kelly.
By Brother Joseph Starkey for Drawing:—Mary Theresa Claisen and Leila Lucy Caparn.
By Brother Collard Moutrie, for Music:—Mary Theresa Claisen.
By Brother Louis Hirsch, for German:—Maria Louisa Flintoft.
By Brother H. W. Homsworth, for Amiability, as voted by her Schoolfellows:—Jessie Maria Blair.

An adjournment for refreshment then took place, after which the Calisthenic display, for which the pupils of our Schools have now acquired so great a reputation, was given, and afforded the utmost satisfaction to all the visitors. Dancing ensued, and it was a late hour before the doors closed on those who had attended this most enjoyable gathering. We cannot better close our notice than by expressing the general feeling of all assembled at the excellence of the arrangements. Every visitor was unanimous in praise of the manner in which the instruction seemed to be imparted, while the happy faces and cheerful conduct of the pupils denoted that all that could be done for their health and comfort was attempted by the House Committee and Miss Davis, the mistress of the school. Among those present were Colonel F. Burdett P.G.M. Middlesex, Bros. J. Symonds P.G.D. J. Rucker P.G.D., T. Cubitt P.G.P., J. Nunn P.G.S., T. White, Rev. J. M. Vaughan, R. W. Stewart, H. Levander, C. Hogard, J. Constable, J. Ross, J. Faulkener, H. Dicketts P.G.S., B. Head, J. C. Mather, Newman, J. Stevens, P. Matthews, E. Cox, Stephens, H. Pannell, Burrell, W. C. Murlis, Mander, A. D. Loewenstark, Griffiths Smith, H. Massey, Thompson, H. M. Levy, Tattershall, F. Binckes Sec. Boys' School, Jas. Terry Sec. R.M. Benovolent Institution, H. Muggeridge, Harriss, &c.

The regular meeting of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for aged Freemasons and the Widows of Freemasons was held on Wednesday, the 12th inst., Bro. Benj. Head V.P. in the chair. Bro. James Terry read the minutes of the former meeting, which were unanimously confirmed, also the report of the committee. A letter was read from Bro. Dr. Strong, the Hon. medical attendant of the Asylum, thanking them for having placed his name on the list of Vice Presidents. A vote of thanks, proposed by Bro. Griffiths Smith P.G.S., and seconded by Bro. J. Smith P.G.P., was also accorded to Bro. Cutbush, for presenting to the Institution twelve Rhododendrons. The names of those brethren qualified to serve on the committee for the ensuing year were then read, and there being one vacancy, Bro. Robert Wentworth Little, Secretary Girls' School, was elected to fill that office. There were present Bros. Dr. Erasmus Wilson, T. Cubitt, J. Smith, W. Stephens, Griffiths Smith, J. Newton, C. E. Lacey, J. G. Farnfield, R. W. Stewart, C. Hogard, L. Stean, W. Hilton, J. Stevens, H. Massey, H. M. Levy, &c.

Bro. Clarence Holt, the eminent tragedian, leaves London, on Whit Monday, for a Provincial tour. During his engagement he will appear in his character delineations of the great creations of Shakspeare, Sir W. Scott, and the late Charles Dickens.

At the meeting of the Committee of the House of Commons, on the Religious Worship Facilities Bill, on Tuesday, the 11th May 1875, the Rev. Canon Gregory of St. Pauls, and the Rev. Daniel Ace, D.D. of Laughton, near Gainsborough, Lincolnshire (the latter well known in Masonry), were examined as to their experience in Church and Parochial Matters, and both the eminent divines were complimented, and thanked by the Chairman, for the important information they had given to the Committee on the subject of their investigation.

Bro. Henry Becking, the celebrated buffo-vocalist, known professionally as Harry Cavendish, is now recovering from his late severe accident. A complimentary benefit will be given to him, under the patronage of Colonel Fraser C.B., and an influential number of Stewards, on Thursday the 27th inst., at the Concert Hall, Store Street, Bedford Square. Several talented artistes are announced to appear.

On Wednesday, the 221st anniversary festival of the Corporation of the Sons of the Clergy was celebrated under the dome of St. Paul's Cathedral. The service was choral, the choir consisting of some 250 voices, and the sermon was preached by the Rev. F. W. Farrar D.D., head master of Marlborough, and a Chaplain in ordinary to Her Majesty. In the evening, a distinguished company were entertained in Merchant Taylors' Hall, the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor presiding. Among the guests were the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishops of London, Llandaff, Carlisle, Hereford, Rochester, Chichester, and others. The Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of London were among the principal speakers. Contributions were acknowledged to the extent of £19,796.

A deputation of ladies and gentlemen waited, on Monday afternoon, on Mr. Disraeli, at his official residence in Downing Street, for the purpose of bringing under his notice the present state of the law of copyright. Among the speakers were Mr. Tom Taylor, Mr. G. A. Sala, and Mr. Charles Reade. Mr. Disraeli, having listened most attentively to the remarks of these gentlemen, promised to give the subject his most anxious consideration.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—The most valuable properties that any remedy, or combination of remedies, can possess, are those of a tonic and a purifying character. A tonic medicine imparts vigour to the whole system, and, consequently, is necessary in low, weak, and feeble states; a purifying medicine acts by eliminating from the blood useless and effete matter, and is necessary in nearly every case of deviation from health. Generally these remedies are distinct, but in Holloway's Pills and Ointment these properties are combined, and there is scarcely any condition of the human organism which may be considered a departure from the normal standard in which these remedies are not in the highest degree applicable, they thus act in both ways.

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THE THEATRES, &c.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.—This evening, FRA DIAVOLO. On Monday, LA TRAVIATA. On Tuesday, a favourite Opera. On Wednesday, LOHENGRIN. On Thursday, LES DIAMANS DE LA COURONNE. On Friday, LES HUGUENOTS. At 8.30 each evening.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA, DRURY LANE.—This evening, IL TALISMANO. On Monday, FAUST. On Tuesday, LA SONNAMBULA. On Thursday, LUCREZIA BORGIA. At 8.30 each evening. On Monday, morning performance of IL GLADIATORE, at 2.30. On Wednesday and Friday evening, at 8.0, SIGNOR SALVINI.

HAYMARKET.—At 7.30, A FAIR ENCOUNTER, DAVID GARRICK, and DUNDREARY MARRIED AND SETTLED.

ADELPHI.—At 6.45, TURN HIM OUT, NICHOLAS NICKLEBY and THE BUNCH OF BERRIES.

PRINCESS'S.—At 7.30, ROUND THE WORLD IN EIGHTY DAYS.

LYCEUM.—At 6.50, FISH OUT OF WATER. At 7.45, HAMLET. On Saturday, a morning performance at 2.30 only.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.0, TWENTY MINUTES WITH A TIGER. AT 7.30, THE TWO ORPHANS.

STRAND.—At 7.30, AN EARNEST APPEAL. At 8.0, WEAK WOMEN and INTIMIDAD.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 7.45, THE MERCHANT OF VENICE.

GAIETY.—At 8.0, FRENCH COMIC OPERA.

GLOBE.—At 7.0, EAST LYNNE and BLUE BEARD.

ST. JAMES'S.—At 7.30, A PHENOMENON IN A SMOCK FROCK, TOM COBB and TRYING IT ON.

ROYALTY.—At 7.45, THE SECRET. At 8.15, LA PERICHOLE. At 10.15, TRIAL BY JURY.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG, OUR BOYS and A FEARFUL FOG.

MIRROR.—MAIDS OF HONOUR, THE HIDDEN HAND, and MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME.

CHARING CROSS.—JEANNE DUBARRY and CATTARINA.

OPERA COMIQUE.—At 8.0, LA BOULE.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, THE ARTFUL DODGE and CHILPERIC.

CRITERION.—At 8.0, GIROFLE GIROFLA.

COURT.—At 7.30, SHORT AND SWEET. At 8.20, LADY FLORA.

SURREY.—At 7.30, AMBITION and KATHERINE AND PETRUCHIO.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—This Day, FIRST SUMMER CONCERT. On Monday, SPECIAL HOLIDAY ATTRACTIONS. On Thursday, GRAND FIREWORK DISPLAY. Open daily. AQUARIUM, PICTURE GALLERY, &c.

FLORAL HALL CONCERTS—This day, Second of the Season, commencing at 2 o'clock.

POLYTECHNIC. — COOKS and COOKERY — SPAIN—THE ISLE OF WIGHT, with new Views—THE MAGICIAN AND THE GENII, in which several wonderful illusions and mysteries will be shown. Daily, 12.0 and 7.0. Admission, 1s.

EGYPTIAN (LARGE) HALL.—Dr. DE BUATIER, at 3.0 and 8.0.

EGYPTIAN HALL.—MASKELYNE AND COOKE, at 3.0 and 8.0.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL, Langham Place.—Mr. and Mrs. GERMAN REED, at 8.0. Thursday and Saturday, at 3.0 only.

NOTICE.

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67 BARBICAN, E.C.

THE WEEK THAT IS PAST.

FRIDAY'S sitting in the House of Lords was occupied chiefly with the Regimental Exchanges Bill, the second reading of which was moved by the Duke of Richmond. Viscount Cardwell, the Secretary of State for War under the last Government, moved the virtual rejection of the measure, but the Earl of Derby, the Duke of Cambridge, from a military point of view, Lord Penzance and the Marquis of Salisbury supported it, the principal speakers in opposition being Lord Sandhurst, who caused no little sensation by citing the case of a regiment, some of whose officers years ago had exchanged apparently to avoid a dangerous service; the Duke of Argyll and Earl Granville. On a division, the numbers were, contents 137, non-contents 60, thus giving the substantial majority which the Marquis of Salisbury asked for. On Monday, on the report of amendments to the Agricultural Holdings (England) Bill, the Duke of Richmond consented to an amendment being inserted in clause 2, to the effect that so far as yearly tenancies are concerned, the operation of the Act should be postponed till 14th February 1876. An amendment of Lord Penzance, defining "letting value," was agreed to, after some discussion, and among other amendments clause 15 was omitted, while an addition was made to clause 33, giving power to the landlord to obtain a change from the tenant in certain cases by ascribing the duration of the change, and providing for the application of the Act to Crown and Duchy lands. The report was then agreed to, and the third reading fixed for Thursday. On Tuesday, the Earl of Shaftesbury moved the second reading of the Chimney Sweepers Bill, which was agreed to, as was also that of the Artisans' Dwellings Bill. The Regimental Exchanges Bill passed through Committee, Lord Sandhurst offering further explanation of the statement made the Friday previous, the Duke of Richmond adding a few words also on the same subject. On Thursday, the second reading of the Pollution of Rivers Bill was agreed to, after a long and nearly exhaustive debate. Then the Agricultural Holdings (England) Bill was read a third time, and passed, and the Peace Preservation (Ireland) Bill a second time. The Regimental Exchange Bill a third time, and passed. On Friday, the Peace Preservation (Ireland) Bill passed its final stages.

On Friday, in the House of Commons, after the usual questions were disposed of, the House went into Committee

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of Ways and Means, and on the resolutions as to Brewers' Licences, Mr. Gladstone rose and made a somewhat short attack on the Budget, especially as regards the anticipated surplus, and the plan proposed for the reduction of our debt; the Chancellor of the Exchequer defending certain points with great vigour. Mr. Lowe, as an ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer, naturally offered some remarks, and Mr. Ward Hunt, both as an ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer and a present First Lord of the Admiralty, defended the Government. Among the other speakers were Messrs. Dodson, Childers, and W. H. Smith. The resolution as to the Brewers' License Duty was then agreed to, as was another on the Gun License Duty. The Budget resolutions were then reported, and the House resumed, adjourning shortly after. On Monday, on the order of the day for the consideration of the Peace Preservation (Ireland) Bill amended, Mr. Butt moved a new clause, which the Solicitor-General for Ireland agreed to, and the Marquis of Hartington supported; thereupon the clause was read a second time and was added to the Bill. Other amendments were proposed, most of them, however, being rejected, a few, to which the Government acceded, being agreed to. The third reading was then fixed for the day following at 2 p.m. Among the other business transacted was the second reading, *pro formâ*, of the Land Titles and Transfer Bill, it being understood that the discussion should take place on the motion for going into Committee. On Tuesday, the statement of the Hon. W. Bourke, in answer to Sir C. Dilke's enquiry as to the relations between France and Germany, was felt to be reassuring, and was cheered accordingly. Shortly afterwards, on the order for the third reading of the Peace Preservation (Ireland) Bill, Mr. Butt moved that it be read a third time that day six months, but the amendment was rejected by 287 to 70, and the Bill passed its third reading amid cheers. An amendment to a similar effect, by Mr. Richards, on the order for the second reading of the Bishopric of St. Albans Bill, experienced a similar fate, being defeated by 273 to 61. The Committee on the Sale of Food and Drugs Bill was then resumed, an amendment by Mr. Muntz to Clause 21 being rejected, but one by Mr. Bell, subject to some alterations proposed by Dr. Lyon Playfair, was agreed to. The report of Mr. Justice Lush, relative to the Norwich petition, to the effect that Mr. Tillett was not duly returned, owing to improper practices by his agents, was read. When the sitting was resumed, at nine o'clock, the Speaker called upon Mr. J. Barclay, who had a motion on the paper relative to Land Tenancy Laws (Scotland), when it was found that only 36 members were present, and accordingly the House adjourned. On Wednesday, the Coroner's (Ireland) Bill and an Infanticide Bill were read a second time. On Thursday, a number of questions were, first of all, answered. Then, on Mr. Disraeli's motion, that the House adjourn till Thursday, a long and somewhat desultory conversation took place as to the course of public business, after which the House went into Committee on the Sale of Food and Drugs Bill, from which it at length emerged, all the remaining clauses being agreed to. The second reading of the Metropolis Gas Companies' Bill, moved by Sir J. Hogg, stands adjourned, as does the House, till Thursday next.

On Friday, the Queen again held a Drawing Room at Buckingham Palace. There were present the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Princess Beatrice, the Duke of Connaught, Prince Louis of Hesse. Several presentations were made in the Diplomatic circle, which was numerously attended, as was the General circle. About 200 presentations were made. The expectation that Her Majesty would be present at a field-day at Aldershot, on Monday, on which occasion the whole of the troops would be mustered, was not realised. The field-day was held, however, though the absence of the Queen caused no small amount of disappointment to the spectators.

On Wednesday, a State Concert was given at Buckingham Palace by command of the Queen. Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, Prince and Princess Louis of Hesse, Prince and Princess Chistian of Schleswig-Holstein, the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, the Dukes of Connaught and Cambridge, and the Duke and Duchess of Teck were present, and there was a large and distinguished company also invited. The programme of the music included selections from the works of Gounod, W. S. Bennett, Verdi, Mozart, Benedict, Beethoven, Mendelssohn, and other eminent composers. Among the vocalists were Mesdames Edith Wynne and Patey, Christine Nilsson, Mdlle. Albani, M. Maurel, Signor Campanini, Messrs. E. Lloyd and Santley, while the band and chorus were selected from the Italian Operas, the Philharmonic and Sacred Harmonic Societies, together with Her Majesty's Private Band.

On Tuesday, the anniversary meeting of the Royal Lifeboat Institution was held in the Egyptian Hall, at the Mansion House, by the kind permission of the Lord Mayor. H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh, who was accompained by the Duchess, presided, and there were present, the Duke of Northumberland, Lord Lawrence, Earl Fortescue, Earl Percy, Sir G. Broke Middleton Bart., and others. The officers, at the head of whom was the Duke of Northumberland as President, having been elected for the present year, the Duke of Edinburgh pointed out the admirable condition of the Society, which now had a fleet of 250 Lifeboats, established at various parts along the coasts of the United Kingdom, and congratulated the Institution on the success of its efforts to save life. Mr. R. Lewis, the secretary, then read the report, from which, *inter alia*, it appeared that the receipts of the Institution for the past year amounted to over £33,500, of which £7,213 was the result of special gifts for ten lifeboats, while the expenditure, including liabilities, exceeded £32,363. Lord Lawrence moved, and Count Schouvaloff seconded, a resolution that the report should be accepted, and this was agreed to unanimously. The Lord Mayor next proposed, and Earl Percy seconded, a resolution to the effect that the Royal Lifeboat Institution should command the most enthusiastic assistance. This was carried, as was another, proposed by Mr. Thomas Chapman, the chairman, and seconded by Admiral Geo. Wm. Tarleton, that the thanks of the meeting are due to the coxswains and crews for their valuable services. A vote of thanks was then passed to the Lord Mayor for the use of the Hall, and then the Duke of Northumberland proposed a vote of thanks to the Duke of Edinburgh for being present, and also presented to him and the Duchess, on behalf of the British residents, the models of two lifeboats on the auspicious occasion of their marriage, the Duke suitably acknowledging both the thanks and the gift. The Duke and Duchess had been previously received by the Lord Mayor, there being present several members of the Corporation and others, for the purpose of being presented with the service of plate voted to their Royal Highnesses on the occasion of their marriage. The gift, which is valued at 3,000 guineas, consists of a large centre-piece with candelabra, in oxydised silver. The platform is 5ft. 10in. in length, and 2ft. 6in. wide. The height of the candelabra with the piece is 3ft. 3in. The centre-piece represents the "Triumph of Venus, born by the Sea." At the base are Tritons, supporting on the one hand the Royal Arms of England, on the other those of Russia. Various other devices there are, all illustrating the profession to which His Royal Highness belongs, but save in these the service has been made to match other plate of the Duke's. The ceremony of presentation occupied only a few minutes, after which there was a *dejeuner* in the Long Parlour, over which presided the Lord Mayor, who had been the spokesman on the part of the Corporation in presenting the service to their Royal Highnesses.

There have occurred two shipwrecks, one of which, off the Scilly Islands, as regards loss of life, is of a most terrible character. The vessel was the screw steamer Schiller, belonging to the German Transatlantic Steam Navigation Company at Hamburg, whither it was bound from New York at the time of its destruction. There appears to be no mystery whatever about the origin of the disaster. On Friday afternoon a fog set in, when at length her captain deemed it prudent to reduce the speed one-half. The passengers had been told that they might expect to see land on Friday evening, about 8 p.m., but this was impossible, owing to the fog, and about 10 o'clock the vessel struck with a fearful crash. Then followed a most terrible scene. All order, all control over the frightened passengers appears to have been at once lost. Captain Thomas, who commanded the ill-fated ship, appears to have acted with courage, but his efforts were ill-supported by other members of the crew, who looked immediately after themselves, regardless of the poor women and children. There were on board in all 355 people, of whom 101 were officers and crew, the rest being passengers, 59 first class, 75 second, and 120 steerage. There were aboard also the Australian Mail, some 250 bags, and a large quantity of specie. Of the 42 announced to have been saved, 28 were of the crew—over 27 per cent—while the fourteen passengers, including

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one woman, represent a per-centage of a little over 5½. How many more might have been saved had the crew seconded the efforts of their gallant captain, it is impossible to say. It is hardly likely that over six-sevenths of those on board would have perished, had the crew done its duty. Germans may sneer at Englishmen as an almost, if not quite, effete race, but we cannot picture to ourselves an English crew acting in so unmanly a fashion. The other wreck is of the steamer Cadiz, off Brest, early on Saturday morning. Of the 66 persons on board, viz. 31 crew and 35 passengers, only four appear to have been saved. Had there been time to carry out the orders of the captain, who seems to have maintained his presence of mind, and the boats been lowered, every soul on board might have been saved. One other casualty must be noted. The Bessemer steamship made the passage, on Saturday, from Dover to Calais in an hour and a half, but on entering Calais harbour, the vessel, it seems, refused to answer her helm. The consequence was that about 50 feet of the pier were carried away, and a slight amount of damage done to the vessel itself.

The Alexandra Palace, on its most attractive days, appears to have been very unfortunate as regards the weather. The day of the opening was dreadfully wet, and the Saturday after, when the first of the series of Saturday Popular Concerts was given, was almost as moist a day. However, the damp weather does not seem seriously to have damped the ardour of the patrons of the new Palace. If not present in as great numbers as would have been the case had the days been brilliant, there were strong musters on both occasions. On Wednesday, the Coaching Club made it the limit of their first drive out this season. There were, of course, a great number of people on the look out for their arrival, and a proportionate excitement as the teams made their appearance, one after the other. On Monday, which is Whit Monday, and one of the Bank Holidays, there will be a whole host of attractions, among them an athletic meeting. There will also be a grand concert in the Great Central Hall, under the direction of Sir Julius Benedict. Among the artistes announced to appear are Mdlle. Titiens, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Mr. Santley. The Palace orchestra and the bands of the Grenadier, Coldstream, and Fusilier Guards will take part in it. There will also be a balloon ascent at 3 p.m., Wombwell's Menagerie open during the day, and performances at Hengler's circus, besides other attractions. On Whit Tuesday also there will be a special programme.

In the world of sport there has been plenty doing. The Royal London Yacht Club had its opening cruise on Saturday, Erith being, as usual, the rendezvous. The London Athletic Club held a meeting at Lillie Bridge the same day, the most noticeable event of the meet being the success in the half-mile of Slade, the champion miler, who beat Gibb the other day in a four mile race. This clearly proves that Slade is as good at the short as at the long distance, for he won easily, by 12 yards, in 2 min. 2 sec. Then there has been the Bicycle race between Oxford and Cambridge, from St. Albans to Oxford, a distance of 52 miles. The Cambridge champions were the Hon. J. Keith-Falconer, F. Lindley Dodds, and H. M. Bowen, all of Trinity College; while D. Crofton (Worcester), E. B. Poulton (Jesus), and H. Smith (Balliol), were the Oxford representatives. The race ended in favour of the Cantabs, Keith-Falconer coming in first by a good mile, Dodds being second, and Crofton, whose upset was caused by the small boys at the beginning, third. The start took place from outside the "Peahen" (Bro. Marks), and the distance was run in 4 hours 9 min. 24 sec. The Hon. J. Plunket and Mr. J. G. Chambers started the men, and timed the finish with a Benson's chronometer. In Cricket, there have been one or two Colts' matches—notably Colts of North v. those of South, at Lords, the former winning in a single innings with 12 runs to spare, and the Derbyshire Colts match. The Lords and Commons played the Household Brigade at Prince's Ground on Saturday, the latter being disposed of for 115, while the former put together 169 for the loss of eight wickets, Lord Harris batting finely for 75. On Monday commences, at Lords, North v. South, for the benefit of the Marylebone Club Professional Fund.

We publish elsewhere in our columns the result of the recent Anniversary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls; the amount received being over £7,200, with 13 lists still outstanding. There thus only remains to be held the Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, for which the Secretary, our respected Bro. Binckes, has been working with such marvellous energy ever since the Festival of 1874. A little bird has whispered in our ear that Bro. Binckes means to outdo both the Benevolent and Girls' Institutions, and will be content with no less an amount of sterling coin than is represented by 10 with three ciphers annexed. We sincerely hope his anticipations will be fully realised, especially as the Boys' School has no endowment Fund.

MASONIC BANQUET IN HULL.

From the HULL PACKET AND TIMES.

THE brethren of the Humber Lodge, No. 57, of Free and Accepted Masons celebrated the forty-eighth anniversary of laying the foundation stone of the Freemasons' Hall, in Osborne-street, on Friday evening. At seven o'clock the Lodge was opened in the first degree, the Worshipful Master, Bro. Jonathan West, presiding. At the conclusion of the business, a sumptuous banquet was provided by Bro. H. Preston, I.P.G. of the Lodge, when nearly seventy of the brethren sat down, the company including the Worshipful Masters of the Kingston and Minerva Lodges, the Constitutional Lodge, of Beverley, the Crystal Palace Lodge, Kew, and many Past Masters and officers. The Worshipful Master was supported by Bro. John Pearson Bell M.D., P.S.G.D. of England, and W.D.P.G.M. of North and East Yorkshire; Bro. W. Tesseyman P.M. (Chaplain of the Lodge); Bro. Acton, P.M. of the Crystal Palace Lodge, No. 742, Kew; Bro. Joseph Wynn W.M., Bro. John Kemp P.M., and Bro. S. Findlater, P.M. of the Constitutional Lodge, No. 294, Beverley; Bro. J. Fearne Holden P.M. P.S.G.D.; Bro. Emes, W.M. Minerva Lodge, No. 250, and Bro. Garforth, W.M. Kingston Lodge, No. 1010, Hull; Bro. H. Preston I.P.G.; Bro. John Wilson P.M.; Bro. Martin Kemp P.M.; Bro. Vivian P.M.; Bro. Banks Hay P.M.; Bro. John Hudson P.M.; Bro. T. Taylor J.D.; Bro. J. E. Winspear I.G.; Bros. Thos. N. Middleton, R. Boggett, James Walker, H. J. Amphlett, T. D. Wing, R. Beeveas, W. Rymer, J. B. Salvidge, J. Chappell, J. Priest, W. J. Norton, F. Boose, Thos. Cook, Geo. E. Selby, Evelyn Cooke, H. Searle, S. Newlove, N. Armstrong, B. Cohen, J. Scott, — Brochner, G. Cartwright, J. B. Hodgson, J. Hutchinson, R. Linging, T. Hopwood, C. J. Rust, &c. The vice-chairs were filled by S.W. Bro. Francis Summers (Sheriff of Hull), and Bro. H. Toozes, in the room of the J.W., Bro. T. Thompson, who was prevented by indisposition from attending on the occasion. Bro. W. D. Keyworth P.M. acted as Director of Ceremonies, in the absence of Bro. A. W. Ansell; and Bros. E. Kidd, Adam Shand, and A. Loftus jun. officiated as Stewards. After the repast, the "Queen and the Craft" was proposed, followed by the toast of "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W. Grand Master," in giving which

Bro. West W.M. said he felt quite sure every member of the Craft must have rejoiced on that eventful day when his Royal Highness was installed; and those who were fortunate enough to witness the ceremony at the Albert Hall would never forget it. (Applause.) The ceremony was a most imposing one, and the appearance of the Hall, thronged with so large an assembly of distinguished Freemasons, baffled all description. The speech of the M.W. Grand Master must have awakened the most gratifying feelings in the heart of every brother present. His Royal Highness said he himself should never forget that day; nor would any of those who received from his lips the watchword "Loyalty and Charity." (Cheers.)

The next toast given from the chair was that of "The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon Pro G.M., the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale R.W.D.G.M., the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland R.W.P.G.M. of North and East Yorkshire, and Bro. John Pearson Bell M.D., P.G.S.D. of England, W.D.G.P.M. of North and East Yorkshire, and P.M. and Trustee of the Humber Lodge." (Cheers.) Whilst they had such noblemen at their head there could be no fear of the prosperity of the Craft. The Deputy Grand Master of the Province had honoured them with his presence on this occasion. (Applause.) In every part of the Province he was deservedly esteemed, and his ready acquiescence to the many calls made upon him by the various Lodges proved that he had Masonry at heart, and that it was his desire to do all he possibly could to promote the interest of the Craft. The Humber Lodge had great cause to be thankful that they had a Past Master holding so distinguished a position, and the frequent acts of kindness he displayed towards the Lodge placed them under a deep debt of gratitude to him. Therefore he (the speaker) had great pleasure in coupling Bro. Dr. Bell's name with the toast he had proposed—"Our Masonic Rulers." (Cheers.)

The W.D.P.G.M., in responding, expressed his sense of the honour conferred upon him by being called upon to return thanks for the toast just proposed. With regard to the names which had been mentioned, he reminded them that the Earl of Carnarvon stood in the same position as he would do if he were in reality the Grand Master of England. The M.W. Grand Master being, as they all rejoiced to know, a member of the Royal Family, had the prerogative of having under him a Pro G.M., who was only appointed when a member of Royalty was Grand Master. They must look, therefore, upon the Earl of Carnarvon as in reality their Grand Master, and upon Lord Skelmersdale as his deputy. With regard to his own excellent chief, the Earl of Zetland, he (the speaker) had the pleasure of meeting him the other day in Grand Lodge, when his lordship expressed his gratification that everything was going on so harmoniously and well in the Province. He also trusted that, as there was to be a meeting of the Board of Benevolence at Scarborough next month, as many of the members of the Provincial Grand Chapter as could make it convenient would endeavour to be present. Now that they had Royalty so nearly allied to the Craft, he trusted it would go on and prosper still more in the future than it had done in the past. (Applause.) With the greater impetus that had been given to Freemasonry it would behove them to be more careful as to admission into the Order, and

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he trusted that the various Lodges would take this matter into their serious consideration. They did not require numbers as much as stability in membership. The question also presented itself of increasing the fees to Grand Lodge, and no doubt that was a matter which would soon receive due attention from the private Lodges throughout the kingdom. With regard to the position of Masonry, the Craft never appeared under more auspicious circumstances than it did at present. (Hear, hear.) Never in its history was it so popular as at this moment, and the speaker contrasted the present aspect of the Order with that which it presented half a century ago. Fifty years ago society was exclusive, but now it had become more diffused and general in its lines of demarcation. Freemasonry was now a society composed chiefly of the middle classes, and never was it more deservedly popular. To maintain this popularity ought to be the aim of every member of the Fraternity, who ought to feel that the character of the Society depended in a great measure upon himself individually. Therefore, every one ought, as far as he could, to act in accordance with the tenets and principles which had been taught him in his Lodge. (Applause.) With regard to the attacks that had been made upon Freemasonry, he thought the demonstration the other day in the Albert Hall set at nought whatever might have been said by the detractors of the Craft. (Applause.) There could be no doubt at all of the loyalty of the Order; they should not have had the Prince of Wales at their head if there had been the slightest feeling of disloyalty amongst any of them. Therefore he felt quite happy that the aspersions recently cast upon Masonry had been completely met by the demonstration to which he had alluded. In a violent attack made upon them by the *Saturday Review*, the writer seemed to labour under the impression that Masons were a lot of men who merely boasted of having built the Tower of Babel, and of being fond of good dinners. (Laughter.) Well, if they built the Tower of Babel, it showed they were "bricks;" and the term "brick" in common parlance, signified a good fellow. (Laughter.) As for a good dinner, a writer who replied to the *Saturday Review*, hinted that he who penned the attack would himself not object to one. (Laughter, and hear, hear.) It had been said, moreover, that Masonry taught nothing but the "Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man." Well, if that were all, there was a great deal in such a belief. Many did not believe in the fatherhood of God, and as to the brotherhood of man, if they could meet in unity and harmony in their Lodges, sinking all political and religious differences in their aim to benefit and elevate each other, they were content to do so. As long as the universality of Freemasonry was maintained it must go on and prosper, and he for one was content to allow the outer world to think that the "Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man" was the keystone of the Masonic structure. (Cheers.)

Bro. J. Fearne Holden P.M. P.S.G.D. next proposed "The Founders of the Humber Lodge," in doing which he referred to it as a pleasurable yet somewhat melancholy duty. The esteemed Deputy Grand Master of the Province had alluded to the present popularity of Freemasonry compared with that which it enjoyed fifty years ago; and he (the speaker) was reminded that the Craft was in a somewhat critical position when this now prosperous Lodge was founded. Those brethren who came out with much regret from the Lodge in which they had worked with peace, but animated by a sense of duty to themselves personally, and to the Craft, displayed an amount of moral courage that did them infinite honour. (Hear, hear.) If success was to be taken as any criterion of right movement and right beginning, the successful issue of the Humber Lodge had indelibly stamped its approval upon what was done by its founders. He had said this toast was tinged with a certain amount of melancholy, for he could hardly be sanguine that any of the founders were at present amongst them. Having inaugurated their good work they had been removed to the Grand Lodge above—to that bourne from whence no traveller returned. Those grand principles of Masonry, which they taught and inculcated so successfully, and which their successors were proud, by God's blessing, to promulgate and keep secret amongst them—had attained to full fruition; and faith had been swallowed up in sight—in the great personal Fatherhood of God, the Great Jehovah, creator of all things in heaven and earth. That faith, which enabled them to thread their first steps in Masonry, had been directed by the Eternal Providence, whose presence they had now doubtless realised. He called upon them, on the anniversary of the foundation of this Lodge—which might be said to be an "All souls' day" to them—to wish the pious prayer that their ancient forefathers uttered in the holy Temple at Jerusalem, "May they rest in peace, and may their works follow them." The toast was received in solemn silence.

Bro. Martin Kemp P.M., in replying, expressed the regret, which all the brethren present would share, he felt that one who usually spoke to this toast was not amongst them. Their Bro. Alderman Seaton had been summoned to the bedside of perhaps his dying child, and it therefore devolved upon him to say a few feeble words in response to the toast that had just been proposed. The duty reminded him that he was growing an old man—at all events, an old Mason; and the time might not be far distant when they too might be numbered with those who founded this prosperous Lodge. Time was passing away so rapidly that it behoved them to make the best use of it they could, and to emulate the example of those who had left their mark in Masonry. They rejoiced in having so many visiting brethren present on this auspicious occasion, and to be able to inform them that the success of the Humber Lodge, which now numbered over 280 members, was greater than its founders could ever have ventured to anticipate.

The Deputy Grand Master of the Province then proposed the "healths of the Worshipful Master and Officers of the Humber Lodge" a toast which he knew would be received with the utmost cordiality. (Applause.) It was 33 years since he had the honour of filling the chair as W.M. of this Lodge; and he had peculiar pleasure in proposing the toast that had been entrusted to his hands. The W.M., he need hardly say, had much more important duties to discharge than were required of him 33 years ago. In the first place, the Lodge was not then so strong in numbers; still the brothers met with the greatest regularity, and worked hard to maintain the *prestige* and character of the Lodge. The speaker alluded in humorous terms to matters of detail, contrasting the conduct of business in the olden times with that which now prevailed; and said that the oftener he had the opportunity of attending the meetings of this, his mother Lodge, the more he felt attached to it. (Cheers.) He felt proud at seeing it presided over by such a Master as he who now occupied the chair whom he wished long life and prosperity. He hoped that Bro. West might long be spared amongst them to be an ornament to Masonry, and to give them the benefit of his experience and aid. With regard to the other Officers, they had then as Senior Warden their worthy Sheriff of the borough, who discharged the duties of his office in a manner that did him great credit. (Applause.) It was a source of congratulation and advantage to the Lodge that Bro. Summers should be able to come amongst them so frequently, considering his numerous public and private engagements. It spoke well for his zeal and love of Masonry to see him come so regularly to his Lodge as he did. He regretted the absence of the Junior Warden, but he felt sure that Bro. Thompson and the rest of the Officers were most desirous of doing their duty; and, in conclusion, he wished for the Lodge a year of unexampled prosperity. (Cheers.)

Bro. Jonathan West W.M. acknowledged the compliment that had been paid to him, and expressed his earnest desire to do his duty to the Humber Lodge and to the Craft. They had gone on very pleasantly in the past, and nothing but the utmost good feeling had prevailed amongst the brethren. This was a subject of great congratulation in so large a body. Everything had been exceedingly prosperous, and it was his desire that the same harmony and good understanding should prevail during the whole time that he should remain in office. (Applause.)

Bro. Francis Summers S.W. also responded, and, in the course of his remarks, expressed the pleasure he felt at the prosperity of the Lodge, and his readiness to assist the W.M. and his brother officers in furthering the interests of the Lodge and the Craft generally. He and the W.M. had worked most harmoniously together, and he was sure that at the termination of his year of office the brethren would have no reason to regret the choice they made when they appointed Bro West. (Cheers.)

Bro. H. Tozzes responded on behalf of the J.W., who was prevented by illness from attending on the occasion, and whose absence they all regretted.

Bro. John Wilson P.M. then gave "The Worshipful Masters, Officers, and Brethren of the Sister Lodges," Bro. Emes, the W.M. of the Minerva, and Bro. Garforth, W.M. of the Kingston Lodges, responding in suitable terms. Bro. Emes proposed "The Trustees, Treasurers, and Past Masters of the Humber Lodge," for which toast replies were made by the W.D.P.G.M. and P.M. Bro. Banks Hay, as one of the treasurers.

The W.D.P.G.M. next gave "The Masonic Charities," in doing which he designated Charity as the keystone of Masonic structure, and congratulated the members of the Humber Lodge on the position of its benevolent fund, which, he believed, already amounted to something like £5,000. The provincial benevolent fund, which he had the gratification of founding some ten or twelve years ago, was also in a prosperous condition; and it was pleasing to reflect that since its establishment not a single application for relief from that fund had appealed in vain. (Applause.) He then exhorted the Brethren to support those excellent institutions in which the children of indigent Masons were educated, clothed, and maintained, as well as the asylum for decayed Masons and their widows. And he would here remark, as a proof of excellence of the education imparted in the schools to which he had referred, that out of 18 boys who went up last April to the Cambridge Middle-class Local Examinations no less than 16 passed, which he thought would be regarded as most gratifying. (Applause.) As to the Girls' school, he was pleased to learn that upwards of 1,000 girls had been educated, clothed, and maintained in that Institution, from the benefits of which about 150 girls were now receiving. It was still more gratifying to him to know that after those girls left the school they were still taken cognisance of and it was a fact of which they might feel justly proud that not a single girl had ever cast any discredit on the Institution. With regard to the annuitants he hoped the present candidate, Mrs. Stuart, would be elected in the course of the next few days. About 170 boys were now been cared for in their school. Speaking of the Royal Benevolent Masonic Institution for aged Masons, the speaker said that on the list of annuitants there were now 120 aged Masons and 115 widows—the former receiving £36, and the latter £28 per annum. (Applause). In addition to this they had the privilege of residing in the comfortable Asylum at Croydon. The schools cost in maintenance about £5,000 a year each, and the annuitants nearly £8,000—raised almost entirely by voluntary subscriptions. Moreover the Grand Lodge, through the Board of Benevolence, annually dispersed in charity about £3,000—without reference to country or creed. (Applause.) In conclusion he appealed to the brethren to support these institutions, and said he was no advocate for the giving of large sums by a few, but every individual should give something, and not rely upon donations from the rich. (Hear, hear.) These references to the Masonic Charities were received with the most enthusiastic applause.

Bro. Vivian responded to the toast, speaking in eulogistic terms of the charitable institutions in connection with Freemasonry.

Bro. F. Summers proposed "The Visiting Brethren," the toast been acknowledged by P.M. Bro. Acton, on behalf of the Crystal Palace Lodge, No. 742, and Bro. H. J. Amphlett for the Alexandra Lodge, No. 1511, Hornsey. Bro. T. Taylor J.D., gave "The Absent Members of the Humber Lodge, especially the sea-going Brethren;" and the list closed with "Prosperity, Unanimity, and Perpetuity to the Humber Lodge." The proceedings were interspersed by some excellent songs and recitations, and the gathering was characterised by the utmost harmony and good feeling throughout.

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DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be greatly obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the kingdom would favour us with a copy of their summonses each time of issue.

SATURDAY, 15th MAY.

1185—Lewis, King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green.

308—Prince George, Bottoms, Eastwood, Yorks.

MONDAY, 17th MAY.

1—Grand Masters', Freemasons' Hall.
8—British, Freemasons' Hall.
21—Emulation, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
58—Felicity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
720—Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham.
1159—Marquis Dalhousie, Freemasons' Hall.
1201—Eclectic, Freemasons' Hall.

61—Probity, Freemasons' Hall, Halifax.
77—Freedom, Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend.
85—Faithful, Swan Inn, Harleston, Norfolk.
89—Unanimity, Astley Arms Hotel, Dukinfield.
109—Unanimity, King's Arms, North Walsham.
139—Britannia, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
264—Nelson of the Nile, Freemasons' Hall, Batley.
285—King's Friends, Lamb Inn, Nantwich.
302—Hope, Masonic Hall, Bradford.
307—Prince Frederick, White Horse Hotel, Hebden Bridge.
359—Peace and Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton.
408—Three Graces, Haworth, Yorks.
424—Borough Lodge, Masonic Hall, Gateshead.
466—Merit, George Hotel, Stamford Baron, Northampton.
467—Tudor, Red Lion Hotel, Oldham.
613—Unity, Masonic Hall, Stockport.
703—Clifton, Clifton Arms Hotel, Blackpool.
721—Independence, Bar's Hotel, Chester.
849—Scientific, Victoria Hotel, Wolverton.
872—Lewis, Masonic Hall, Whitehaven.
925—Bedford, Masonic Hall, Birmingham.
941—De Tabley, Royal George Hotel, Knutsford.
1030—Egerton, Beaton Norris, near Stockport.
1170—St. George, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
1514—Thornhill, Masonic Room, Dearn House, Lindley, Yorks.

R. A. 37—Concord, Freemasons' Hall, Bolton.
R. A. 138—Prince Edwin, Bridge Inn, Bury.
R. A. 139—Paradise, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
R. A. 277—Tudor, Angel Hotel, Oldham.
R. A. 281—Rowley, Athenæum, Lancaster.
R. A. 361—Industry, Norfolk Arms, Hyde.
R. A. 827—St. John's, Masonic Temple, Dewsbury.

TUESDAY, 18th MAY.

Board of General Purposes, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.
165—Honour and Generosity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate Street.
194—St. Paul's, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
704—Camden, Bull and Gate Tavern, Kentish Town.
857—St. Mark's, Half Moon Tavern, Herne Hill.

R. A. 19—Mount Sinai, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
R. A. 186—Industry, Freemasons' Hall.

51—Angel, Three Cups Hotel, Colchester.
57—Humber, Freemasons' Hall, Hull.
126—Silent Temple, Cross Keys Inn, Burnley.
310—Union, Masonic Rooms, Carlisle.
403—Royal Sussex, George the Fourth, Nottingham.
592—Cotteswold, King's Head Hotel, Cirencester.
667—Alliance, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
690—St. Bartholomew, Dartmouth Arms Hotel, Wednesbury.
897—Loyalty, Fleece Inn, St. Helens.
979—Four Cardinal Virtues, Crewe Arms Hotel, Crewe.
998—Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston.
1042—Excelsior, Freemasons' Hall, Leeds.
1073—St. Mangbold, Masonic Rooms, Ramsey.
1166—Clarendon, Queen's Hotel, Hyde.
1214—Scarborough, Station Hotel, Southill, Batley.
1256—Fidelity, Black Bull, Poulton.
1276—Warren, Stanley Arms, Seacombe.

R. A. 350—Meribah, Grapes Inn, Stoneclough.
R. A. 996—Furness, Masonic Temple, Ulverstone.
K. T.—United Preceptory, &c., Palatine Hotel, Manchester.

WEDNESDAY, 19th MAY.

General Committee of Grand Lodge, and Lodge of Benevolence, Freemasons' Hall, at 6.
174—Sincerity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham Street.
190—Oak, Freemasons' Hall
193—Confidence, White Hart, Abchurch Lane, at 7.30. (Instruction).
619—Beadon, Greyhound Tavern, Dulwich.
700—Nelson, Masonic Hall, William Street, Woolwich.
969—Mayhury, Freemasons' Hall.
1382—Corinthian, George Inn, Glengall Road, Isle of Dogs.

R. A. 1305—St. Marylebone, British Stores, New Street, St. John's Wood.

20—Royal Kent Lodge of Antiquity, Sun Tavern, Chatham.
86—Loyalty, Royal Hotel, Prescot.
116—Royal Lancashire, Swan Hotel, Colne.
128—Prince Edwin, Bridge Inn, Bolton-street, Bury.
221—St. John, Commercial Hotel, Bolton.
253—Loyalty, Masonic Hall, Guernsey.
246—Royal Union, Freemasons' Hall, Cheltenham.
258—Amphibians, Freemasons' Hall, Heckmondwike.
277—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Oldham.
287—Unanimity, Dog and Partridge, Stockport.
294—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Todmorden.
298—Huddersfield, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield.
311—South Saxon, Freemasons' Hall, Lewes.
320—Loyalty, Junction Inn, Mottram.
324—Concord, Golden Ball Inn, Stockport.
325—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Salford.
326—Samaritan, George Hotel, Sandbach.
338—Limestone Rock, Swan Hotel, Clitheroe.
340—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Morley, Yorks.
347—Airedale, Masonic Hall, Westgate, Shipley.
461—Fortitude, Queen's Arms, Newton Moor.
484—Faith, Gerard's Arms Inn, Ashton-in-Mark.
510—Belvedere, Star Hotel, Maidstone (Instruction).
524—Berkhampstead, King's Arms, Berkhampstead.
534—Eaton, Bull's Head, Congleton.
540—Harmony, Wheatsheaf Inn, Ormskirk.
561—Faith, Beever's Inn, Openshaw.
581—Buckingham, George Hotel, Aylesbury.
619—Colston, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
625—Devonshire, Norfolk Arms, Glossop.
633—Yarborough, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
654—Peveril of Peak, Crown Hotel, New Mills.
679—St. Davids, Black Lion Hotel, Aberdare.
756—Kilwinning, Freemasons' Hall, Runcorn.
823—Everton, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
910—St. Oswald, Masonic Hall, Pontefract.
962—Sun and Sector, Portland-square, Workington.
1004—Athol, Douglas Hotel, Douglas, Isle of Man.
1019—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Wakefield.
1070—Starkie, Black Horse, Kirkham.
1086—Wa ton, Masonic Hall, Kirkdale.
1129—St. Chad, Rosebuck Hotel, Rochdale.
1161—De Grey and Ripon, Corporation Hotel, Ardwick.
1183—Duke of Edinburgh, Coffee House, Wavertree.
1218—Prince Alfred, Commercial Hotel, Mossley.
1301—Brighouse, Masonic Rooms, Brighouse, Yorks.
1334—Norman, Freemasons' Hall, Durham.
1346—Victoria, Cross Keys Inn, Eccles.

R. A.—Unity, Wheatsheaf, Ormskirk.
R. A. 1045—Stamford, Town Hall, Altrincham.

THURSDAY, 20th MAY.

House Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
55—Constitutional, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon Street.
169—Temperance, White Swan, High Street, Deptford.
813—New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton.
1278—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Approach-road, Victoria-park.
1320—Blackheath, Crown Hotel, Blackheath.
1365—Clapton, White Hart Hotel, Clapton.
1507—Metropolitan, 269 Pentonville-road.

R. A. 5—St. George's, Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 733—Westbourne, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood.
R. A. 743—Crystal Palace, Thicket Hotel, Anerly.
R. A. 834—Andrew, Clarendon Hotel, Hammersmith.

42—Relief, Albion Hotel, Bury.
56—Howard, Town Hall, Arundel.
98—St. Martin's, Board Room, Town Hall, Burslem.
203—Ancient Union, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
208—Three Grand Principles, Masonic Hall, Dewsbury.
215—Commerce, Commercial Inn, Haslingden.
267—Unity, Macclesfield Arms, Macclesfield.
269—Union, Queen's Arms Inn, Ashton-under-Lyne.
275—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield.
283—Amity, Swan Inn, Haslingden.
296—Samaritan, Green Man Hotel, Bacup.
332—Virtue and Silence, White Lion Inn, Hadleigh.
336—Benevolence, Jolly Sailor, Marple.
337—Candour, Commercial Inn, Uppermill, Yorks.
343—Concord, King's Arms Hotel, Preston.
344—Faith, Bull's Head, Radcliffe.
345—Perseverance, Old Bull Hotel, Blackburn.
346—United Brethren, Royal Oak Inn, Clayton-le-Dale.
350—Charity, Grapes Inn, Stoneclough.
361—Industry, Norfolk Arms, Hyde.
367—Probity and Freedom, Bull's Head Inn, Smallbridge, near Rochdale.
369—Limestone Rock, Swan Hotel, Clitheroe.
425—Cestrian, Grosvenor Hotel, Chester.
439—Scientific, Private Room, Bingley.
462—Accrington, Hargreaves Hotel, Accrington.
531—St. Helen's, Masonic Hall, Hartlepool.
600—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Bradford.
606—Combermere, Seacombe Hotel, Seacombe.
630—St. Cuthbert's, Parson Lane, Howden.
777—Royal Alfred, Angel, Guildford.
940—Philanthrophy, Freemasons' Hall, Stockton-on-Tees.
960—Hesketh, Fleetwood Hotel, Fleetwood.
1011—Richmond, Crown Hotel, Salford.
1032—Townley Parker, Howard's Arms Hotel, Whittle-Springs.
1042—Excelsior, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
1125—St. Peter's, Masonic Hall, Tiverton.
1227—Upton, Spotted Dog Tavern, Upton, Essex.
1290—Pembroke, West Derby Hotel, West Derby.

R. A. 97—Strict Benevolence, Masonic Hall, Sunderland.
R. A. 204—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
M.M. 46—Union E.C., Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
M.M. 122—Percy, Freemasons' Hall, Stockton-on-Tees.
K. T.—Fearnly, Masonic Temple, Dewsbury.

FRIDAY, 21st MAY.

Annual General Meeting of Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, Freemasons' Hall, at 12.
House Committee, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
6—Friendship, Willis's Rooms, King-street, St. James's.
143—Middlesex, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
201—Jordan, Freemasons' Hall.

152—Virtue, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
219—Prudence, Masonic Hall, Todmorden.
401—Royal Forest, Hark-to-Bounty Inn, Skaldburn, Yorks.
516—Phœnix, Fox Hotel, Stowmarket.
652—Holme Valley, Victoria Hotel, Holmfirth.
830—Endeavour, Queen's Arms, Dukinfield.
837—Marquess of Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon, Yorks.
993—Alexandra, Midway Hotel, Levenshulme.
1034—Eccleshill, Freemasons' Hall, Eccleshill, Yorks.
1102—Mirfield, Assembly Rooms, Mirfield.
1108—Wharfedale, Private Room, Westgate, Otley.
1311—Zetland, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
1389—Fenwick, Masonic Hall, Sunderland.

R. A. 521—Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Huddersfield.

SATURDAY, 22nd MAY.

1207—West Kent, Forest Hill, Sydenham.

140—Peace, Masonic Rooms, Meltham.

IRELAND.

WEDNESDAY—9—Muses, Masonic Hall, Dungannon.
" 161—Excelsior, Tuam, Galway.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

THURSDAY—48, St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall.
" 226.—Portobello, Royal Hotel, Bath Street.
" R. A. 152.—Perseverance, Lodge Room, 86 Constitution Street.
FRIDAY.—R. A. 83.—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Egyptian Lodge, No. 27.—This old established and flourishing Lodge met on Thursday, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Bro. S. R. Lamble W.M. in the chair, Hales S.W., supported by the officers, H. G. Buss P.M. Treasurer, Poole P.M. Secretary, Past Masters C. Atkins I.P.M., J. Coutts P.G.P., D. H. Jacobs, Libbos, T. Sheppard, and a numerous assemblage of the brethren. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. J. Riches was passed to the second degree. Messrs. H. Nixon and Mr. Alfred Nixon were initiated into the Order. Arrangements were made for the summer banquet, and the brethren were requested

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to give in their names to the Hon. Secretary. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to an excellent banquet provided by Bro. Clemow, and superintended by Bro. Knill. The loyal and Masonic toasts were given, Bro. J. Coutts P.G.P. responding for the toast of the Grand Officers, and Bro. Atkins I.P.M for the Past Masters. The toasts of the Wardens, Officers and Tyler concluded one of those agreeable meetings which have now become identified with a visit to this old established Lodge.

Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, No. 45.—The meeting was held on 10th of May, at the Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell Green. Present—Bros. Walker W.M., Garbett S.W., Gardiner J.W., Stock S.D., Read J.D., Hill I.G., Killick Secretary, Defriez Treasurer, P.M. Bro. Beckett Preceptor. Visitors: Bros. J. Lenzil P.M. 754, and a numerous gathering of members. Business transacted:—Lodge opened in due form, minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. Bro. Defries answered the usual questions, was entrusted, and retired. Lodge opened in second degree, and Bro. Defriez passed to the degree of F.C. Bro. Morrison answered the questions leading from the second to the third degree, and was raised to the degree of M.M. Lodge resumed to the first degree. The W.M. vacated the chair and Bro. Killick became W.M., and rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. Defriez candidate. As the following Monday will be a Bank Holiday, the Lodge was adjourned until the 24th inst. The fifteen sections will be worked in this Lodge on Monday, the 31st inst. All Masonic business being ended, the Lodge was closed in due form.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, 193.—The 15 sections were worked in this Lodge of Instruction on the 12th instant, by Bro. Joseph Crawley P.M. 174, who officiated as W.M., assisted by Bros. Walker, Honeyman, Webb, Horsley, Griffiths, Gottheil, Hill, Constable, Gross, Brown and Bloomfield. The W.M. performed his task with consummate efficiency, in spite of an awkward drawback, caused by brethren who had placed their names upon the list for a portion of the work failing to put in an appearance. It would certainly be advantageous if, before a Brother agrees to perform such a duty, he were to reflect whether his presence on the specified occasion might be reasonably relied upon. Volunteers, however able, frequently find themselves unprepared when suddenly called upon, and thus the general harmony of the evening's work is marred by the neglect, wilful or otherwise, of the thoughtless. The members of the Lodge, however, expressed their satisfaction at what had been done, by conferring a vote of thanks and honorary membership upon Bro. Crawley, who, in thanking the brethren for the favour, hoped to show his gratitude by more frequent attendance, and by his endeavours of assistance whenever opportunity served. Bros. Horsley Honeyman, Hill, Gross and Brown, who did excellent service during the proceedings, were unanimously admitted joining members. The attendance was tolerably large, considering the time of year, and the officers were as follow: Honeyman S.W., Woodward J.W., Fella S.D., Webb J.D., E. Gottheil P.M. Preceptor, John Constable P.M. Treasurer, J. K. Pitt Secretary, Isaac Botibol I.G., Geo. Christopher Tyler.

Bank of England Lodge, No. 263.—The last meeting of the season took place at the Albion Tavern, on Thursday 13th instant. The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, Junior Grand Warden, honoured the Lodge with a visit after the banquet, and was received with most cordial and fraternal greeting.

Shakspeare Lodge, No. 284.—Met on the 11th May 1875, at the Masonic Rooms, Warwick. Present—Bros. J. G. Moore W.M., F. Haynes M.D. S.W., S. Clark Smith J.W., Plucknett S.D., Machen D.P.G.M. D.C., Harris and Brown Stewards, G. Wilson M.D. I.G., Parser and Burrows Tylers, S. W. Cooke P.P.S.G.W. Secretary. Past Masters Bros. Ridley, Cutting, Rev. P. S. Harris, Lieut. Col. Machen. Business transacted:—Rasing of Bro. Thursfield M.D. The Lodge proceeded to refreshment, and entertained at banquet Bro. Kain, of the William Preston Lodge, who is also an old member as well as the oldest P.M. of the Shakspeare Lodge.

Tullamore Lodge, No. 321.—A meeting was held on 10th May 1875, at Court House, Tullamore. Present:—Bros. Major S. B. Kekewich W.M., Wm. D. Whelan S.W., Wm. R. Wade J.W., Donald A. Bradley S.D., E. H. F. Royse J.D., Rev. John Low Chaplain D.C., Captain T. A. Peirce J.P. P.M. Steward, W. S. Hackett I.G., Wm. Bagnell Tyler, W. H. T. Love Secretary, Paul Fawcett P.M. Treasurer. The usual routine business was transacted, and a candidate proposed for initiation. Lodge closed in peace, love and harmony. It is gratifying to us to add that at no period of this Lodge's history—and this extends over a period of 116 years—has it been in a more flourishing condition than at present. This happy state of affairs is traceable to the action of those who calculated upon a totally different result, not only to this Lodge in particular, but to the Craft in general.

Royal Union Lodge, No. 382.—A meeting was held on 10th May 1875, at Chequers Hall, Uxbridge, Middlesex. Present:—Bros. E. C. Woodward W.M., Davis S.W., T. Swallow J.W., Holliday S.D., Webb J.D., Dairy Asst. D.C., Dayson and Cook Stewards, Hawkins I.G., Longstaff Tyler, Wm. Coombes P.M. and P.P.G.S.B. Secretary, Coulton P.M. Treasurer. Past Masters Bros. B. H. Swallow and Weedon. Visitors Bros. Brown P.M. 780, Morrell P.M. 111, Cooper Secretary 538, Smith 753, &c. Minutes read. Messrs. Partridge, Tait, Fowler, Rowles and Hill initiated; Bros. Girardet, Arnold, Allen and Perkins passed; Bros. Clayden and Meadows raised. Adjourned to a very good banquet, provided by Bro. Moore. The work was ably performed by the W.M. A very pleasant evening was passed.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction.—The fifteen sections were worked at the above flourishing Lodge of Instruction on Tuesday, 11th of May, at Bro. Aller's, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, under the able presidency of Bros. Crawley the Preceptor, Wallington S.W., Webb J.W. The sections were worked in an admirable manner by the following brethren:—Nos. 1 Bro. Lowe, 3 Webb, 3 Allen, 4 Wallington, 5 Crawley, 6 and 7 Horsley; 2nd section, Nos. 8 Bro. Hill, 9 Crawley, 10 Horsley, 11 Gross, 12 Christian; 3rd section, Nos. 13 Bro. Wallington, 14 Brown, 15 Webb. Amongst the brethren present we observed Bros. Cambridge, Cull, Smith, Cheshire, Worsley, Allen, Brown, Prestage, Cruttenden, Folliot, Wintle, &c.

Excelsior Lodge, No. 1155.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, 6th May, at the Sydney Arms Tavern, Lewisham Road. Bro. D. Bear W.M., Hose S.W., Roper J.W., C. G. Dilley P.M. Secretary, G. Bolton P.M. Treasurer. Past Masters Carver, W. Watson P.G.S., Simmons, Littlecot and Moore. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Mr. Jas. White having been balloted for, was initiated into the Order. A Board of Installed Masters was then formed, and Bro. Hose S.W. and W.M. elect was duly installed into the chair by Bro. G. Bolton P.M., in a very perfect manner. At the conclusion of the ceremony, Bro. Bolton was justly complimented by the brethren and visitors for the impressive manner in which he had conducted the beautiful service. The W.M. having been saluted, invested his officers:—Bros. D. Bear I.P.M., J. Roper S.W., J. Wilson J.W., G. Bolton P.M. Treasurer, C. G. Dilley P.M. Secretary, Archer S.D., Welstead J.D., J. W. Keigwin I.G., Bray M.C., Goddard P.M. Tyler. This selection appeared to give unqualified satisfaction. Bro. Bear I.P.M. proposed that a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes to Bro. G. Bolton for the able manner he had performed the ceremony of installation. Bro. Carver P.M., in very eloquent terms, presented Bro. Bear I.P.M. with a very elegant gold Past Master's jewel in the name of the Lodge; he hoped he might live long to wear it as a memento of kindness and brotherly love. Bro. Bear, in suitable terms, responded. A sum of £10 10s was proposed to be placed on the list of the W.M., who is a Steward for the Annual Festival of the Boys' School on the 7th July. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren, 34 in number, sat down to a very sumptuous banquet, provided by the worthy host, Bro. Watson. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were then given. The W.M., in proposing the health of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.W.G.M., alluded to the magnificent reception he received at the Albert Hall. Every brother in the Order was proud to see him in that position. (Cheers.) Bro. White returned thanks for the toast of the newly initiated. Bros. Pattie, Thue and H. M. Levy returned thanks for the visitors, and, in the course of their remarks, paid a deserved compliment to the W.M. for his able and genial conduct, and also to Bro. G. Bolton P.M. Bro. Bear I.P.M. proposed the toast of the W.M., whom he characterised as a thorough good Mason, and one who was competent to perform the duties of the chair. The W.M. suitably responded, and then proposed the toast of the Past Masters. He had a great personal feeling in proposing that toast, for they, on every occasion, had rendered him much valuable assistance. He hoped to do his duty to their satisfaction, and he sincerely regretted (through illness) the absence of one whom all respected, viz. Bro. N. Wingfield. Bro. Moore P.M. responded to the toast, and thanked the W.M. and the visiting brethren for their kind expressions. He also thanked their worthy Preceptor Bro. Dilley P.M. The toast of the Wardens and Officers followed. The W.M. then said he hoped the brethren would not part without drinking the health of the worthy Host and Hostess, who had so satisfactorily catered for them. Bro. Watson returned thanks, and the Tyler's toast brought a very agreeable evening to a close. Some capital harmony emanated from Bros. Bear, Simmons, Burney, Wilson and Welstead. The visitors were Bros. J. Patte P.M. 147, Tibbals 169, Debac 169, Sutch 79, H. M. Levy P.M. 188, Thue 435 Salisbury.

Harrow Lodge, No. 1310.—This Lodge met on Tuesday, 4th May, at the Railway Hotel, Harrow. The Lodge was opened at 3 p.m. by Bro. W. H. Green P.M. and Secretary, in the absence of the W.M., Bro. George Smith, who, however, arrived a few minutes later. The officers being Bros. John Harrison S.W., Frederick Harrison J.W. and W.M. elect, John Coutts P.G.P. P.M. and Treasurer, W. H. Green P.P.G.D.C. Middlesex, P.M. and Secretary, Hammond S.D., Spells I.G., &c. Mr. Alfred Clement was initiated into Freemasonry in the W.M.'s usual able manner. The Lodge was then duly opened in second and third degrees, and Bro. F. Harrison J.W. was installed into the chair of K.S., by Bro. Coutts P.G., assisted by Bro. Smeed P.P.G.W. Middlesex (both of whom are members of the Harrow Lodge). The W.M. then appointed his officers, viz.:—Bro. George Smith I.P.M., Bro. John Harrison S.W., Hammond J.W., John Coutts P.G.P. P.M. Treasurer, W. H. Green P.P.G.D.C. Middlesex P.M. Secretary, Kipps S.D. and Organist, Spells J.D., Taylor I.G., Tarryer D.C., Bavin Tyler. Bro. George Smith I.P.M. and Bro. F. Harrison W.M. were recommended for Provincial Grand Office. The Lodge was then closed in due form, and the brethren (about 30,) adjourned to the Banquet, where the usual Masonic toasts were given, and a handsome P.M.'s jewel presented to Bro. George Smith I.P.M. The meeting was attended by numerous visitors, amongst whom we noticed:—Bros. Col. Burdett R.W.P.G.M. Middlesex, Veal P.M. 889, P.G.D. Surrey, Waghorn P.M. 946, Bro. Darke P.M. 1275, Walker 382, Wrangham 619, Anderson 619, Dodman 879.

ROYAL ORDER OF SCOTLAND.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in solemn form. R.W. Bro. Dr. Hamilton in the chair. Eight candidates were admitted, and received the exalted degree of Knight Rosæ Crucis of Harodine Kilwinning. The impression made by the most quaint and striking ceremonial of this ancient Order, and by the singularly perfect working of Dr. Hamilton, General Clerk, and their efficient officers, will not soon be effaced from memory. The ceremonies were of two hours' duration, and though the labours be arduous, the result is the most effective conceivable.

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REVIEWS.

All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, 67 Barbican, E.C.

The Groundwork of Freemasonry. — An address delivered by Bro. Robert Bell at the third annual social meeting of the brethren of Lodge "Mother Kilwinning," resident in Glasgow and neighbourhood, 24th April 1875. Glasgow: John Tweed, 9 Howard-street.

Bro. Bell's address is governed mostly by common sense, which is after all paying it and him a far higher compliment than if we had enlarged on his wonderful powers of oratory, the depth of his learning, and so forth. Bro. Bell is simplicity itself in his treatment, and common sensible in his remarks, these latter being devoted to what are taken as "the three parts of the groundwork on which our Order is founded," namely, *Brotherhood*, the *Bible*, and *Solomon's Temple*. As an appropriate specimen of what a short Masonic address should be, we cordially commend this, on *The Groundwork of Freemasonry*, to the notice of our readers.

MAGAZINES OF THE MONTH.

SECOND NOTICE.

In the *Gentleman's* are a short sketch of "Gambetta" by "Spectavi," an account of "The late John Mitchel and the Young Ireland Party," by a "Young Irelander of '48," with a comparison of the merits of "Mr. Irving and Signor Salvini," in which the Hamlet of the former is, to our mind, too lightly estimated. We are promised next month a sketch of "The Member for Stoke," by "The Member for the Chiltern Hundreds," and in July, the opening chapters of a new novel by Mr. R. C. Francillon, the author of "Olympia."

There is, in the *Cornhill*, an admirable article on "The Art of Furnishing," an account of the "Success of the Transit Expedition," and the conclusion of a biographical sketch of the artist, "Luca Giordanelli." In the way of fiction we have the three tales "Miss Angel," "The Marriage of Moira Fergus," and "Three Feathers" continued. It is a great pity the illustrations are not on a better footing with the contents.

Belgravia is admirably illustrated, and contains a variety of light readable papers, with the further advantage of not having a heavy uninteresting tale to overweight it. Amongst the most noticeable of the contents are No. III. of Mr. Compton Reade's "Oxford Raffles;" Mr. J. H. Eyre's "Brighton Reminiscences," in which we are introduced to the Pavilion, and its illustrious occupant, George Prince of Wales; a paper by Mr. T. H. S. Escott, on "Thespis and Themis;" and further chapters of "Hugh Milton," in which are narrated some important incidents in the story. "The Family Ghost" is an amusing tale.

Our readers will find some rather dry, but very sound, readable matter in *Macmillan*. Such, for instance, is the paper on the "Irish Land Question," the treatment, thus far, of which is a success, from the writer's view. F. J. G. contributes an elaborate notice of Sir Henry Rawlinson's recently published essays on "England and Russia in the East," and the closing article on "The Foreign Loans Committee," by W., is worth studying. There is, too, a sketch by Mr. J. Delaware Lewis, of "Eton thirty years ago," in which the system of teaching, and the disciplinary arrangements are shown to have been scarcely what we should have expected in the most eminent of our great Public Schools.

The *Scottish Freemasons' Magazine*, in its last issue, contains an article on the recent Installation, which our contemporary must excuse us for saying is in very questionable taste. It is not for us to analyse the feelings of English Masons generally, but we do not think that flunkeyism had much to do with the recent excitement at the Prince's election. Nor do we think the terms which are applied, either directly or by inference to His Royal Highness, are such as should have been used. They are, to say the least, un-masonic.

The *Westminster Papers* contain a good translation of some criticisms by J. Berger of Grätz, on "The British Problem Tourney," and some admirable "Dramatic Notes," besides the usual array of Problems and Whist Hands.

Chambers's Journal opens with a well-written paper, by William Chambers, of "The Story of Kitty, Duchess of Queensbury." Kitty, of course, fills the greater part of the sketch, but the whole family of the Queensberries, from the 1st Duke in the reign of Charles, down to "Old Q.," who died in 1810, appears. We have noted also an article on "Free Libraries," "Recollections of Old Coaching Days," by W. Chambers, which will be read with avidity by those who take an interest in the present coaching "revival." An article "About Spiders" is far more engaging than its subject is attractive to look at. There are also a notice of the fourth Report of the Historical Manuscripts' Commission, and an amusingly written paper entitled, "Animal Volunteers," the gist of which may be gathered from the answer of a sentry at some cavalry barracks to the inquiry if a certain dog, always at the gates, had a master in the Regiment. "No, sir," replied he, "but I'm thinking he wants to enlist. Dogs often come to us in this way." The two articles on "Lancashire Recreations" will be found also very interesting.

The most attractive reading in the *Argosy* is Johnny Ludlow's contribution—"The Syllabub Feast." This completes the story commenced last month in "The Key of the Church." Of course "the murder's out" in the present paper, and everybody comes round to a proper sense of everything. "An Unsolved Mystery," and the "Penalty of Genius," as well as the serials—in fact, the whole number is very readable. This literary *Argosy* is certainly a rich one.

The *Leisure Hour* is very well illustrated, and contains several articles of an instructive and entertaining character. Such for instance is "Franking Letters," or a glance at the Post Office of last century, and long, therefore, before Sir Rowland Hill's system of Penny Postage had come into force. Of another, but equally agreeable style, are the articles headed, "Under Canvas: A Lady's adventures in the Himalayas," a region which not many ladies are venturesome enough to traverse. Then there is an account of "The Palaces of Old London," many of which were situated in parts of the city where the present generation of Londoners would hardly expect them to have been, while others were located at some distance from the city, as at Kew, Richmond, Eltham. The "Original Fables" are pleasant reading, and Dr. Rimbault contributes an excellent paper on "Some of the Characteristics of National English Tunes," abundantly illustrating it by such specimens as "The Old Lancashire Hornpipe," "The King's Jig," and others.

Sunday at Home, which is the companion publication of the foregoing, contains, likewise, a goodly programme of articles, appropriately illustrated. Both these periodicals are specially adapted for the instruction of children, and, indeed, "children of a larger growth" need not hesitate to consult their pages. Among the more noteworthy contents of the present number of *Sunday at Home* are an account of the "Tombs of the Ming Emperors in China," an "Anecdote of Sir William Napier," and Part VII. of a description of "Jewish Life in the Time of our Lord," by the Rev. Dr. Ederaheim. Some of the poetical contributions are fair specimens of finent versification.

"Give me a grip of your Hand," a New Masonic Song. London: Hopwood and Crew, 42 New Bond Street.

"GIVE ME a Grip of Your Hand" is not by any means a bad title for a song dedicated to the Craft, but, as the terminating line of each stanza, the words do not lend themselves to poetic expression. The hypothetical cases set forth by the author as fitting occasions for "gripping the hand" are sufficiently comprehensive in scope, for they range from the patriot and "Statesman too," through the Doctor of Medicine, the Soldier and the Tar, to the Man of humble means. Such amiable sentiments as these are likely enough to be effective with the music-hall audiences, the song is intended to amuse, and, when sung in the dramatic style which is Mr. Macdermott's peculiar merit, we have little doubt that they are so. We give the author credit for the best intentions in dedicating his verses to the Craft but we fear, that, like his brother poet's "Ode to Posterity," they will never reach the address.

THE DRAMA.

"Weak Woman" at the Strand.—Recent Announcements.

THE name of Mr. Byron has lately become as much identified with the Strand Theatre as that of the late Mr. Robertson was with the Prince of Wales's. This close association with any one theatre must be prejudicial to the work of any dramatist; having to write pieces suitable to the particular theatre, and to describe characters suited to the peculiarities of a particular body of artists, he falls into one groove, and his productions are wanting in variety. "Weak Woman" is a piece precisely similar in character to "Old Sailors," its predecessor. With only the merest skeleton of a plot, its dialogue is smart, and on that, and the closeness of the acting, the piece depends. A somewhat eccentric gentleman, lately deceased, has bequeathed his fortune to one of two sisters, his nieces, on condition that until both are married, neither shall disclose which is the lucky legatee, this condition being apparently made in order that both may secure disinterested husbands. The hand of one, Lilian, is already secured by a young farmer, a neighbour; the other, Helen, the supposed heiress, is an object of attraction to two country worthies, and she is also loved by a poor cousin, a disinherited son of her benefactor, whom the girls have engaged to manage the estate. This gentleman, Frederick Fanshawe by name, thinks it would be mercenary to make love to Helen, and, in order to conceal his affection for her, somewhat coldly pays attentions to Lilian; but on discovering a later will constituting him the heir, he no longer seeks to disguise his feelings, and at once offers himself to Helen. She, thinking that he has discovered that she is the heiress, orders him out of the house which he knows to be his own. A farewell visit sets matters right, and the curtain falls on a double wedding. Miss M. Terry is a graceful Lilian, and Miss Ada Swanborough as Helen plays better than she has hitherto done; Mr. Vernon is the cousin, and is extremely well suited to the part; his pleasant bearing and careful acting would be of service on any stage. Mr. C. H. Stephenson plays the part of a doctor, a friend of the family. This is a class of character in which Mr. Stephenson has had good experience, and in which he always appears to advantage. Mr. E. Terry manages to extract much fun out of "Captain Ginger," one of the country fortune hunters. The piece is received with every sign of favour, but it cannot be called a good comedy: the plot is conventional, the characters stereotyped. It is probable that anything written by Mr. Byron, and played by the STRAND company, would find favour in the eyes of a STRAND audience, but Mr. Byron knows how little the long run of a play is a proof of its intrinsic merit, and he should remember that pieces like "Weak Woman," however successful for the time, are unworthy of his great reputation and his undoubted ability.

Mr. Albery's new comedy entitled "The Spendthrift," will be produced at the OLYMPIC on Monday, the 24th inst.

The CHARING CROSS re-opens to-night, with a new play, "Jeanne Dubarry," in which Miss Edith Lynd will appear, and a new operetta, in which Miss Kate Santley will no doubt charm her numerous admirers.

We believe that the next novelty at the ST. JAMES'S will be an operetta, of which the libretto will be contributed by Mr. Gilbert, and the music by Mr. Sullivan.

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Printed and Published for the Freemason's Chronicle Publishing Company Limited, by Brother WILLIAM WRAY MORGAN, at 67 Barbican, E.C., Saturday, 15th May 1875.

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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. I.—No. 21. SATURDAY, 22nd MAY 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE.
Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

THE PAPACY AND THE CRAFT.

IN our issue of the 17th ult. we noticed an attack on our Order by the Bishop of Orleans, Mgr. Dupanloup. In our remarks we avoided all appearance of flippancy. We argued the case calmly, on its merits, and we fancy we had no difficulty in pointing out the absurdity of most of those formidable denunciations which the reverend Bishop of Orleans so condescendingly levelled at our Institution. We hear now that His Holiness the Pope has addressed to Mgr. Dupanloup a letter of congratulation, thanking him most cordially for his pamphlet against Freemasonry. We can have no possible objection to the Bishop of Orleans thus seriously committing himself by an egregious act of folly, or that the Pope should exhibit still greater unwisdom by applauding this act of a dependent prelate. In the sense that Freemasonry no more needs any apology than does Christianity itself, we might very well permit these attacks to pass unnoticed. But there are many who hold that, just as there can be no smoke without fire, so can there be no violent explosion of anger unless there pre-exist some just cause for irritation. It is for the especial benefit of those who foolishly imagine that every one who attacks some person or institution has some just ground for doing so, that we resort to the malevolent onslaught on our Order by a section of the Romish priestcraft. In doing this we shall strive most earnestly to avoid giving offence to the Roman Catholic members of the Brotherhood.

Mgr. Dupanloup was pleased to say in his pamphlet, "Freemasonry, in its spirit, essence, and action is the enemy of Christianity." As a political body it is "eminently dangerous," and he urged his flock "to shun a society which is the negation of all religion, and the enemy of all society." This sounds well, but it is "*vox et præterea nihil.*" There is not an atom of truth in the whole pamphlet, so far as we have gathered its contents from a summary given of it by the *Standard* correspondent. At the risk of repeating ourselves, we will remark that Masonry is the enemy of no religion. It is not a political body at all, and cannot therefore be eminently dangerous as such. It is not "the negation of all religion," for the basis of Masonry is religion. It is not "the enemy of all society," for its efforts are unceasing to benefit society. We are aware these statements of ours are merely counter-assertions, but they differ so far from Mgr. Dupanloup's assertions that it is in our power to prove them. We are violating no oath of secrecy in drawing attention to our Constitutions, for these are published by the authority of Grand Lodge. What find we under the first head "concerning GOD and Religion?" "A Mason is obliged, by his tenure, to obey the moral law; and if he rightly understand the art he will never be a stupid atheist nor an irreligious libertine. He, of all men, should best understand that GOD seeth not as man seeth, for man looketh at the outward appearance, but GOD looketh to the heart. A Mason is, therefore, particularly bound never to act against the dictates of his conscience. Let a man's religion, or mode of worship, be what it might, he is not excluded from the Order, provided he believes in the glorious architect of heaven and earth, and practise the sacred duties of morality." Again, under the second head "Of the Civil Magistrate, supreme and subordinate," it is written: "A Mason is a peaceable subject to the Civil powers, wherever he resides or works, and is never to be concerned in plots and conspiracies against the peace and welfare of the nation, nor to behave himself undutifully to inferior magistrates. He is cheerfully to conform to every lawful authority, to uphold, on every occasion, the interest of the community, and zealously promote the prosperity of his own country." What of irreligion, what of eminent danger to the body politic is there in these laws of Freemasonry? To affirm that every Mason observes these laws at all times, were as contrary to the experience of every day life as to affirm that every Christian is a rigid observer of the tenets of Christianity, that every Jew obeys the Decalogue, every Mahommedan the teachings of the Koran. The weakness of individual members is no ground for aspersing the character of the general body, or what shall be said of Christianity, of Judaism, of Mahommedanism, of every other creed that has existed, or may exist from the beginning to the end of time? The writer of an article in the April number of *Le Monde Maçonnique*, on Spanish Masonry, draws the following distinction, the propriety of which admits of no doubt. Speaking of the attempts on the life of Narvaez, and on the ex-queen Isabella, by Merino, and of the risings in Madrid and Catalonia in 1846 and 1848, he says: "*Il est de la dernière évidence, bien que quelques uns de ceux qui jouèrent un rôle dans ces événements furent Maçons, il est de la dernière évidence que les coups de main contre les personnes ne furent pas l'œuvre de la Maçonnerie.*" As well might it be said that all Christians are thieves, because some have been guilty of theft, or all Spaniards assassins, because this Merino sought the life of his sovereign. But it is absurd to argue with men who will not be convinced. If Mgr. Dupanloup is, or has been, a Mason, he is wilfully making a false statement when he says that Masonry is "the negation of all religion." If he is not a Mason, his utterances are worthless; he knows nothing of those whom he is denouncing. As for our Order being "the enemy of all society," does either the Bishop or the Pope believe that the President of the French Republic—to take the most appropriate illustration that occurs to us—is an enemy to society in France or elsewhere, that he would approve a society which is "eminently dangerous," as a political body? The Pope is said to have been a Mason. Be this as it may, dare he assert with any sense of truth that "the nefarious character of the sect being known, there is no honest man who must not turn from it with horror." Are the thousands and thousands of Roman Catholics who have been or are Masons not honest men, merely because they accord to others the same privilege they claim for themselves, namely that of worshipping God according to their own fashion.

If these things had been said of us by little children we should have smiled at them pityingly, and reproved them gently. But they are the utterances of men supposed to be sane. However, *Quem Deus vult perdere, prius dementat.* There is every symptom of insanity in the Pope and his Ultramontane supporters, to judge at least from the madness of their conduct, both ecclesiastical and political. Does this prefigure their overthrow, or are we threatened with a return of that ecclesiastical tyrrany which so long held all Europe in chains during what are known as the "dark ages?" Who lives will see.

FREEMASONRY IN PORTUGAL.

OF the early history of our Order in this country we have only the most meagre details. In 1735, a commission was issued by the Grand Lodge of England, during the Grand Mastership of Lord Weymouth, to

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Bro. Gordon, to establish a lodge in Lisbon, but of the efficiency and fate of this Lodge nothing whatever is known. Some years later, Brothers Constos, a Protestant jeweller of Berne; Alex. J. Mouton, a Paris jeweller: Th Bralé, with a few other brethren, boldly attempted to establish a lodge in Lisbon, but their work was hardly yet begun when Mouton, and shortly after, Constos, in March 1743, found themselves in the clutches of the Inquisition The former, being a Catholic, was released, after having been put to the torture, and sentenced to banishment. The sufferings of Constos need not be described at length, for, doubtless, most of our readers have read the sufferer's own narrative. Suffice it that after having been racked several times, he was, at length, condemned to the galleys for four years. Through the intercession, however, of the English Ambassador, our Government were enabled to obtain his release. We hear nothing further of any lodges in this country, the one fact of note that is recorded for many years being that in 1776, Major d'Alincourt and Don Ayres de Orvellas Peracao, were seized at Lisbon and sentenced to fourteen months' imprisonment. In 1792, the Queen ordered the Governor of Madeira to deliver up all Freemasons to the Holy Inquisition, an order which was punctually carried out. The order, however, contrived to maintain its ground in the country in spite of the many persecutions, as at Oporto in 1795 and in Lisbon 1796). Lodges continued to spring up, as in Lisbon, Coimbra, and other cities and towns. Moreover the officers of foreign ships helped greatly to promote the Order by allowing Masonic meetings and initiations to take place on board, the frigate "Phœnix," in particular, being mentioned as one on board which the Lodge "Regeneration" was constituted in 1797. The chair of this Lodge was successively filled by Bros. Pope, Andr. Ign. da Costa, and José Maria d'Aguilar Cordova. In its turn it constituted five other Lodges. But in spite of the secrecy observed, and the unusual precautions taken to prevent discovery, the brethren were not unfrequently molested, their most violent oppressor in 1800 being the General Superintendent Diego Ign. de Pina Manique. At length, and in spite of all these difficulties and dangers, the year 1806 witnessed the establishment at Lisbon, of the Grand Orient of Portugal, Bro. Egaz-Moniz, according to other authorities Bro. Seb. José de Sampajo, being chosen Grand Master, an office he continued to hold till 1809. When, in 1807 the French troops under General Junot entered Portugal, the brethren besought his protection, which was accorded. However, this good understanding was subsequently disturbed though it cannot have been of long duration, as in 1809, Bro. Fernando Romao d'Alaide Teioe was chosen Grand Master. Further persecutions followed the third invasion by the French under Massena, and in 1810 thirty of the most distinguished brethren in Lisbon were put in chains and shipped off to the Azores. This lessened the activity of the Lodges, yet we read that, in 1812, there were thirteen Lodges in Lisbon, the mother Lodge holding its meetings in the Convent of St. Vincent of Fora. Under a Constitutional Monarchy the Order flourished, but when, in 1823, John VI. was reinstated on the throne he issued a decree against Freemasonry, five years' transportation to Africa being the penalty incurred. Don Miguel was also a most violent opponent of the Order. After the return of those emancipated in 1834, Lodges were again formed in the chief towns in the kingdom, those in Lisbon acknowledging Bros. Carvalho and Saldanha as Masters; while those in Oporto acknowledged Bro. Manuel da Silva Passos. In 1837 an attempt was made to settle all differences among the Portuguese Orients, but it failed. These all worked according to the French rite, but in 1837 the Scottish rite was introduced, and, after 1840, became more general, the number of Lodges working under it in 1845 being seventeen. Thus there came to be four Grand Orients: the Lusitanian, more properly Provincial G.L. of Brazil; the Irish, under G.L. of Ireland; the G.O. of Passos-Manuel, and the G.O. of Costa-Cabral. Amongst Masonic Institutions the Central Benevolent Council is especially noticeable, both by the extent and energy of its labours. At present there is only the Grande Oriente Lusitano at Lisbon, which is the head of all the regular Lodges in Portugal. These are fifteen in number, six in Lisbon, six at Oporto, two in Spain (Seville and Cadiz), and one at Augra do Heroismo, Fayal. During the last ten years Masonry has made great progress; the Grand Orient recognises the three symbolic degrees, and four higher (Elect, Scotch Master, Knight of the East, Rose Croix).

The authorities we have consulted are Findel chiefly, and Thory.

OBEDIENCE TO THE LAW NECESSARY ON THE PART OF EVERY FREEMASON.

BY A PAST MASTER (*English Constitution*).

THERE is nothing more indispensable to the character of a good and worthy Freemason, nothing more strongly insisted on in the ancient charges than obedience to Law. A Freemason can be held worthy of respect and esteem amongst his brethren, and of being permitted to continue in the enjoyment of the privileges of the brotherhood, only whilst his conduct shows that he has a regard for, and strives to obey in all things the moral law, which is the Divine law, and also the law of the land in which he lives, the obedience of which is indeed required by the Divine law itself, and thus ultimately rests upon the same authority with that of the most strictly moral precepts. The charges of 1722 begin with the words:—"A Mason is obliged, by his tenure, to obey the moral law;" and the second charge says:—"A Mason is a peaceable subject to the civil powers, wherever he resides or works." No man who lives in habitual disregard of any precept of the moral law is worthy of a place in the Masonic brotherhood. His life is inconsistent with the very first principles upon which it is constituted, and at variance with the very purpose for which it exists. Flagrant violation of the moral law exposes a Brother to Masonic censure, and if persevered in to the punishment of suspension or of expulsion. Nor is the case otherwise with regard to the law of the land. It has, as has been said, the sanction of Divine authority. "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers," says the Apostle Paul. "For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God . . . . wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake," (Rom xiii. 1-5). "Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates," says the same apostle to Titus (Titus iii. 1). "Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake," says the Apostle Peter, "whether it be to the king, as supreme; or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment for evil-doers, and for the praise of them that do well. For so is the will of God, that with well-doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men," (1 Peter ii. 13-15). Freemasonry, then, is in exact accord with the Book of the Law, the Holy Bible its great Light, when it requires obedience of the law of the land as an essential condition of membership in the Order and of a full enjoyment of its privileges, censuring and punishing violations of that law. Even although the things enjoined or forbidden by the Law of the Land may be otherwise in themselves things indifferent with regard to the moral law, yet the law is to be obeyed, and every good and worthy Freemason will sincerely endeavour to obey it. He may think that it would be better if some special enactment were repealed, and he is quite entitled to use all constitutional and lawful means to get it repealed, but meanwhile he will submit to it, and not transgress it. The brotherhood cannot countenance any one in transgression even of a law concerning the wisdom and utility of which great doubts may prevail. A distinction ought certainly to be made as to the degree of censure or punishment to be inflicted between one case and another; and the transgression which does not in its own nature imply any immorality beyond that of not rendering due submission to the authority of "the powers that be," is not to be dealt with so severely as one in which the immorality is gross, and would be so if there were no law on the subject in any human statute book. But if the particular law of the land which is transgressed is one enforcing by penal sanctions a Divine law, if the transgression of that human law is at the same time a gross and flagrant violation of the moral law, then Masonic censure ought to be severe, and punishment ought to be inflicted, that the high character of the brotherhood may be maintained, and a brother persevering in such iniquity ought to be expelled, that reproach may be wiped away. To receive him, his guilt being known, as if he were of immaculate reputation, or to screen

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him by avoiding to consider or inquire into the case, is inconsistent with the principles of Freemasonry, is a shame to the Lodge in which it takes place, and is calculated to bring dishonour on the whole brotherhood.

We have been led into these reflections in consequence of the attempt again made, and defeated, in the present Session of Parliament, after many similar attempts and defeats during the last thirty-five years, to get an Act passed for the Legalisation of Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister. Of course, if the prohibition of such marriages were nothing more than a human law, even although it might seem to us a wise and good one, calculated to promote the welfare of society, we should have no right to find fault with the persevering endeavours to get it repealed. But we believe it is founded upon the Divine law, and that any connection with a deceased wife's sister is properly regarded by the law of the land as incest, which no form of marriage can sanctify, or in the least degree abate its odiousness. The Divine Law of prohibited degrees is be found in Leviticus xviii. 6-17. There are those who tell us that this law was only for the Jews. But we have not learned to regard the Old Testament as no longer of any authority. Our Lord said: "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled," (Matthew v. 17-18). And how has this part of the Old Testament Law been in any way fulfilled, so that it should now be regarded as a thing of the past? The ceremonial law of the Jews has passed away, with all its symbols and all its rites, because it has been fulfilled to the utmost in Christ. Its very purpose has ceased, and to attempt any observance of it now would be contrary to its own purpose and nature. Moreover, the abrogation of it is clearly declared in the New Testament. But nowhere in the New Testament do we find an abrogation of one jot or tittle of the Moral Law, delivered by God to Israel at Mount Sinai. The statutes concerning the civil polity of the Jews were expressly adapted to their circumstances during their abode in Canaan, and were evidently intended for them alone. But nothing of this kind can be said of any moral precepts. Moral precepts are equally for men of all races and conditions and times. Morality does not change, nor the necessity for moral commandments and prohibitions pass away. There is no law of Prohibited degrees in the New Testament, but the Law of the Old Testament is recognised as binding not only on Hebrew Christians but on Gentile Converts, when the Apostle Paul says to the Corinthians: "It is reported commonly that there is fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife," (1 Cor. v. 1), and exhorts them to put away from among themselves, "that wicked person," (1 Cor. v. 13)—and that the law of Leviticus xviii. 6-17 was not for the Jews alone, but a revelation of the will of God, equally concerning all kindreds, and peoples, and tongues, and nations, clearly appears from what follows it, and several other special prohibitions of the grossest kinds of wickedness which were delivered to Moses along with it. "Defile not ye yourselves in any of these things: for in all these the nations are defiled that I cast out before you: and the land is defiled: therefore I do visit the iniquity thereof upon it, and the land itself vomiteth out her inhabitants," (Leviticus xviii. 24-25). But then it is said, there are special and express prohibitions as to certain specified degrees, from the seventh to the seventeenth verse of this chapter of Leviticus, and that of a deceased wife's sister is not among them. Those who depend on this argument to maintain that marriage with a deceased wife's sister is not prohibited by the Divine Law have failed to look to the general prohibition of the sixth verse, with which the Law of Prohibited Degrees begins:—"None of you shall approach to any that is near of kin to him, to uncover their nakedness: I am the Lord." This is the law, and the verses that follow are evidently intended to show the limits of its application, not by a complete Table of Prohibited Degrees but by examples. As a dotted line marks a circle, these examples mark out the limits to which the prohibition extends; and from the earliest ages of the Christian Church the law has been commonly interpreted on the principle that the mention of each special relationship proves the application of the law to all relationships of equal degree; and this principle was adopted by the Reformers of the sixteenth century. The relation of a woman to her deceased sister's husband is the same in degree and nature with that of a man to his deceased wife's sister, and the former being specially mentioned as within the limits of the prohibition, the latter must be regarded as within them also. But an attempt is made to set aside all arguments against marriage with a deceased wife's sister, on the ground that the relationship is one of affinity. Those who thus treat the subject might as well at once say that they care nothing for the authority of Scripture; for in Leviticus xviii. relationships of affinity are specified as well as relationships of affinity as included in the prohibition, and the two classes of relationships, those of consanguinity and those of affinity are mingled together in the order in which they are mentioned, as if to shew that God makes no difference between the one and the other. However, the advocates of the repeal now sought of what has been a law of all parts of the United Kingdom ever since the introduction of Christianity, think they can still make out a strong case, and overbear all opposing considerations, by reference to the 18th verse of this 18th Chapter of Leviticus, which they always assume to be part of the law of Prohibited Degrees, although the very difference of form gives reason for thinking that it is nothing of the kind, but a law on a different subject. "Neither shalt thou take a wife to her sister, to vex her, to uncover her nakedness, beside the other in her lifetime." Here, they say, is an *implied permission* to marry your wife's sister after your wife's death. And on this supposed *implied permission* some have been found willing to risk the provocation of the Divine Majesty by the sin of incest, of which they are aware that they must be held guilty if their confidence in the *implied permission* were erroneous! And this, although they read—or may read, if they choose to take the trouble,—in the margin of their Bible, for *a wife to her sister*, the words *one wife to another*, a translation which the Hebrew idiom makes extremely probable, and which makes the verse a prohibition of polygamy.

We shall proceed no further in the discussion of the question of the legalisation of marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister, nor say one word of the arguments that have been urged for and against it, on social grounds, or with reference to domestic purity and domestic happiness. Our purpose has been only to show, as briefly as possible, the reasons we have for believing it to be contrary to Divine Law. And, in so doing, we have also shewn our reasons for holding the same opinion as to marriage with a Deceased Brother's wife. Deeming any such connection, therefore, incestuous, we regard those who are guilty of entering into it as unworthy of being permitted to associate with men who strive to render obedience to the moral law, and therefore unworthy to be members of the Masonic brotherhood. And even if the Divine Law did not condemn them, as we hold that it does, they are unquestionably guilty of a wilful breach of the Law of the Land, and, on this ground alone, would be liable to severe Masonic censure. Their pretended marriages being illegal, they are liable to the charge of living in concubinage, even if it were not to be pronounced incestuous concubinage; and Freemasons ought not to tolerate this in any of their number.

The Bill for the Legalisation of Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister, so often introduced into Parliament,—we believe 24 or 25 times—and so often lost, has been always promoted by hired agents of men who have broken the law, and desire to be freed from the bitter consequences of their own misconduct. The whole agitation on the subject has been kept up by a few wealthy persons, who having contracted pretended marriages with sisters of their deceased wives, are ready to expend any sum that may be necessary, and in any way in which it will serve their purpose, to get their incestuous connections recognised as legal marriages, and their illegitimate children declared legitimate. Their pretended marriages aggravate the offence of the odious connections into which they have entered. The form of marriage, in such a case, could not be gone through in this country without fraud and imposition. No clergyman nor registrar would have anything to do with it unless imposed upon by deliberate falsehood. The man who is guilty of such things ought to be held infamous, and if there are any such in the Masonic Brotherhood, they cannot too soon be driven from the portals of every Lodge.

[We readily insert the above, from the pen of a distin-

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guished Mason, but we do not hold ourselves responsible for the views he has ventilated. We are, indeed, well assured that if the existing law is to be effectually defended it must be on broader grounds than those upon which a Past Master rests his case. If an existing law cannot be defended on utilitarian grounds it certainly cannot be maintained, simply because the Jewish Code may have sanctioned it.—Ed. FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.]

THE ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION.

WE hardly think that there are so many individually great pictures in this collection as we have seen on former occasions, though, perhaps, more generally good ones than usual. There are certainly very few that can be called actually bad, and few that will not meet with general approval. The portraits are very numerous, as usual, but they are more pleasing than many we have seen exhibited. There is a decided reduction in the number of portraits of gentlemen on horseback which, formerly, gave rise to so much unconcealed disapproval. We shall allude to the landscapes presently, but will remark here that the small pictures, as a rule, display, to our taste, more excellent workmanship than the majority of large ones. There are but few sea-pieces, and we miss the high sea-lines and green waves of Mr. J. C. Hook, though in No. 308, "Land of Cuyp," we see one of the best pictures in the Exhibition, to say nothing of "Hearts of Oak," No. 474, which, by the way, more nearly reminds us of his former efforts. The most attractive picture in the Exhibition is, undoubtedly, No. 853, "The 28th Regiment at Quatre Bras," by Miss Elizabeth Thompson. Her masterly production, "The Roll Call," in last year's Academy, naturally excited general curiosity as to what she would give us this year, and we venture to think she has caused disappointment to none. The incident she has selected furnishes her with good material for the display of her talents, and in the picture under notice we once more recognise a most accomplished and carefully studied work of art. There is not a figure in it that is not a complete study in itself. She has chosen the moment when the enemy have just unsuccessfully charged the square. The time is well chosen for depicting a variety of expressions in the faces of the soldiers. The stern, anxious faces of the older men, taught by experience that a repulse does not always mean defeat, is strongly contrasted with the levity and reckless sense of security depicted on the faces of the young recruits unacquainted with the fickleness of warfare. The enemy are rather conspicuous by their absence, which, we think, is rather detrimental to the full effect of any representation of an actual engagement. The scene of this obstinate fight, we are told, took place in a field of "particularly tall rye." We do not think that impression is borne out in the picture, for there is certainly none to be seen standing anywhere, and the little in the foreground which represents fallen, or rather trampled down rye, does not strike us as bearing much resemblance to rye, even in its brightest form, much less to rye pressed under foot of man and horse. There is too much prismatic colouring we venture to think in the foreground. Miss Thompson's forte is clearly in figure-drawing. Here she is at once correct, and marvellously clever in arrangement and life-like effect. Come we now to M. Philippoteau's "Charge of the French Cuirassiers at Waterloo," No. 613. In representations of battle-fields our neighbours have ever excelled, and to them almost exclusively does this branch of the art belong. In the picture before us we see a freedom of handling, and a masterly grasp of the subject which will contrast very favourably with any similar attempt we have seen. M. Philippoteau introduces us not so much to an incident of the great fight of the 18th June as to a general view of it. Here his picture materially differs from that of Miss Thompson. In freedom and breadth we consider it decidedly superior. Nor is that faithful adherence to detail, which is of such vital importance in depicting an actual occurrence, in any way wanting. The main interest of the picture is centred in a square of Highlanders, resisting a charge of French Cuirassiers. The combatants are equally represented, and a picture of hard fighting is admirably depicted. In the back ground other squares are formed, engaging other squadrons, and thus the artist has faithfully portrayed a very important feature of Waterloo, where we all know Napoleon's greatest efforts were directed to dislodge our army by repeated cavalry charges, following close upon murderous discharges of artillery. There is little to be said about this painting that is not all praise; but we think the prostrate figure of the Cuirassier in the foreground is decidedly of extra dimensions.

Mr. Millais' pictures deserve no mere passing notice, and we shall allude to his portraits just now, leaving his landscape paintings to separate description further on. No. 222, "Miss Eveleen Tennant" we place first in order of excellence, and imagine our selection will be one generally agreed to. This picture is simple in design, and thus far coincides with the idea that "beauty unadorned is adorned the most." We gaze upon one of the most beautiful faces possible; dressed in a red dress, and wearing a "Rubens'" hat. Miss Tennant wants no more suitable attire, and no more skilful artist to do justice to her charms. Admirers of *brunette* beauty will be charmed with it. No. 262, with the laconic title "No," represents a young lady, apparently decided upon breaking the heart of some tender swain; she holds a letter in her hand, bearing, we suppose, the unwelcome intelligence. It is one of those studies of critical decision which we have so often admired by this skilful hand. 289 and 293 are portraits of two little girls, daughters of Evans Lees, Esq., of Woodfield, Oldham. They do not please us much, and the interest we might otherwise take in them is somewhat distracted by the elaborate background. No. 214, "The Crown of Love," is one of those romantic subjects the delineation of which has always been intimately associated with Mr. Millais' name. The lover, bearing the "dear weight" of the princess whom he had "dared to love" in his arms, "to where the mountain touch'd the sky," by the decree of her proud father, is seen climbing the height. The face of the girl is a marvellous mixture of love, hope, and dread, as though too surely conscious of the price of the wooing, for "she was won in death." It is a grand picture, and we like it the more as being one link more in the chain of similar subjects which have delighted us in former exhibitions.

Mr. Frith contributes the full number allowed to an exhibitor, eight, and we do not hesitate to say that No. 75, "Sophia Western at the inn fire," is his best performance. The face and figure are *ravissantes*, the subject simple, and one that appeals at once to the understanding. Space will not allow of further comment on his other pictures than to mention No. 249, "La belle Gabrielle," No. 579, "Black and blue Eyes," and 614, "Polly Peachum" (a most fascinating Polly), as his most successful efforts.

Mr. Jant pleases us in his portraits more than any other exhibitor, in the solidity and breadth of his painting. Most beautiful do we consider No. 313, "Mrs. Johnston Stansfeld." Not that the face is more than ordinarily good-looking, but we select this as his best of six very good pictures, for the merits we have just alluded to. No. 191, "The early Post," representing three girls in the perusal of apparently highly interesting letters, is another of his we consider very meritorious.

E. Nicol, whose humorous Irish pictures we always look forward to, does not disappoint us this year. Nos. 561, "Always tell the truth," and 1,159, "The Sabbath Day," are in his happiest style. The old lady, with her green umbrella, door-key and books, trudging through the rain to church, is a perfect study of the strict observer of religious duties. We do not consider the landscape paintings altogether satisfactory. There is no concealing the fact that a practice of gaudy colouring prevails to an unpleasant extent in the modern school, and we never recollect more glaring instances of this defect than in the present exhibition. Our greatest artist, Millais, cannot be held to be much more free from it than many of the small fry, and the example of so great a painter may influence others in the adoption of glaring pigments. No. 74, "The fringe of the Moor," and 265, "The representation of a forsaken garden," both by Millais, though exhibiting marvellous skill in the handling of elaborate detail and perspective, are we think overpoweringly brilliant in colouring. The first landscape we ever saw of his, "Chill October," two years ago, gave promise of something much better. We find little difficulty in selecting the paintings of W. Jay, No. 558, "Far from the busy haunts of men," of V. Cole, No. 237, "Richmond Hill," 513, "Loch Scavaig, Isle of Skye," and 1213, "Summer noon," of R. P. Richards, No. 568, "The meeting of the Ribble and Udder," of G. E. Hering, No. 889, "Kildonan," and 1186, "Loch Etive from Bonawe—evening," of A. A. Glendening, No. 894, "Under the Beeches," and 903, "Through the Woods," and of P. Graham, No. 81, "Crossing the Moor," and 49, "Highland pasturage," as amongst the landscape pictures which pleased us most. There are many little pictures, however, which struck us as particularly good, though painted by artists comparatively less known than some we have mentioned, notably No. 552, "Near Streatley on Thames," by J. Whipple, No. 844, "A little farm on the Trent," by J. Peel, and 469, "A quiet spot," by W. S. Lloyd.

ANIMALS.—Of animals we find quite the average number, and, perhaps, above the average excellence in manipulation. Somewhat a new feature is introduced, in the shape of portraits of some noted race horses, to wit, No. 72, "Aventurière," and 501, "King Lud," both winners of the "Cesarewitch," and 77, "Gang Forward," winner of the "Two Thousand," all by C. Lutyens. Best known in animal paintings at the present time is Mr. Ansdell, and we are glad to find his tastes have been transferred from the savage to the domesticated animals. No. 186, "The Intruders," contains some exquisite calves, 523, "Quarrying in the Highlands—Loch Laggan," some quiet, sleepy looking horses, and 1178, "The anxious mother. . . . ." A magnificent pack of bloodhounds is represented in No. 217, "Lord Wolverton's bloodhounds," by G. B. Goddard. Frisking about in every possible position, the dogs display thorough mastery in the drawing of a difficult subject.

There are some pictures which form a class *per se*. We allude to those that appeal directly to our sympathies, and we shall briefly touch upon some of these: No. 626, "The last of the Garrison," by B. Rivière, is one of great merit. We see depicted the traces of some desperate encounter. Destruction has done its dire work, as the hole in the door, the tenantless room, the broken fragments on the floor testify, and certainly not less eloquent is the faithful hound lying wounded against the wall. A beautiful piece of painting is this dog, dumb only in the conventional sense of the word, wonderfully eloquent in his solitary fate. No. 1,177, "The Wedding Dress," by F. D. Hardy. What a dark side of a bridal picture is here represented by the pale, worn-out faces of the dress makers. Hood's lines, which accompany the picture, are a fit companion to those in the "Song of a Shirt." No. 527, "Hardly earned," by Miss L. Starr, is another touching picture, and painted in this clever young artist's best style. The poor governess, returning from giving music lessons, has fallen asleep in a chair before a fire, whose very smallness was the secret of its inability to sustain life; one arm lies across her breast, as though drawing her scanty shawl about her for the sake of warmth. Her comfortless room, with its shabby carpet and furniture; her frail form, dressed in mourning, and the absence of anything calculated to cheer, unite to tell a tale unfortunately no less true than sad.

Turning from "grave to gay," we find some very clever pictures of great humour dispersed about the Exhibition. No. 107, "The Barber's Prodigy," by J. B. Burgess, presents us to a belathered customer, looking anything but appreciative of the talented barber's son, whose works of art are being exhibited to admiring friends by the proud parent. In No. 866, "Rejected," by J. M. Burfield, a well-painted picture, is largely assisted in effect by very quaint humour. The "King Charles" majestically follows his lady in her disdain, and turns his fat back upon the "rejected."

We are glad to renew acquaintance with Don Quixote, too, who is

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admirably portrayed by Mr. L. J. Pott, in No. 1,200, at a ball of the duke and duchess. The hero of the windmill is presented in most orthodox shape, the innocent occasion of much mirth to the other guests, owing to his pedantic gallantry. No. 919, "The First Touch," by J. Grey, depicts Pat and his pig, the one proposing, the other disposing with a vengeance. "Pat" has put "the first touch" of whitewash on the wall of his cottage, and stands back a little to admire the effect, whilst "pig" has overturned the pot of whitewash in his too inquisitive efforts to satisfy his hunger.

REVIEWS.

All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, 67 Barbican, E.C.

Practical Masonic Lectures.—By SAMUEL LAWRENCE, Past Grand Master and Past Grand High Priest of Georgia, Atlanta, Ga.: Published by the Author.

IT is not long since we expressed, formally, our approval of the Masonic lectures as the best medium for conveying knowledge to the less experienced of our brethren. In our article headed "Labour and Refreshment," which appeared on the 17th ultimo, we endeavoured to point out the necessity for more fully studying our system. We said, "A Knowledge of Masonry is no more to be obtained by the unaided light of nature, than is the knowledge of any other art or system; nor can a Mason, who has learnt by rote certain *formulæ*, and is able to repeat them faultlessly, be said to have acquired a full knowledge of the Craft, any more than a man who has learnt by heart the rules of the Latin Grammar can be pronounced a good Latin scholar." Familiarity with these *formulæ*, we said, was only "the first step in the acquirement of Masonic knowledge." There still remained to be acquired "the hidden meaning of the many symbols we use, and why we use them." Hence we urged the advantage of the Lecture, "when the hidden meaning of all that is beautiful and good in Masonry is made clear to us." Bro. Lawrence writes somewhat to the same effect. In the first lecture, on "The Symbolism of Freemasonry," occurs the following passage: "Much of the moral force and metaphorical beauty of our symbols is too often lost to the neophyte in the meagreness of our Lodge lectures as generally delivered; and, in some cases, by their entire omission. Yet, to the Mason who will attend Lodge with regularity, and an honest desire to learn, and will bring to the task a candid, inquisitive disposition of mind, they will grow in significance, until they fill the soul with admiration and love for the great truths they embody and convey. Then it is, after the mind has been imbued and filled with their noble lessons, we begin to see and appreciate the value and the superiority of the *mode* by which these truths are taught and impressed upon us."

In his second lecture "on the Cable-tow," he says: "The study of rituals of forms and ceremonies alone, unless we penetrate into their inner meanings, will not profit us. They should not be neglected; I by no means counsel that. But I would caution you against the bare recital and performance of them as the end of Freemasonry. Too many rest in them, and are great sticklers for words and for usages as they received them." And again, "these forms in themselves are nothing; but they all have a significance, which must be searched for if we would learn them, and become accomplished in the Science." He also quotes Bro. Mackey, to the following effect:—

"Especially, then, should the conscientious Mason recollect that the benefits to be derived from the ethics of Freemasonry, can only be attained by a diligent study of the symbolic system under which its instructions are concealed. The good Mason should always be a bright one. But Masonry is a progressive science, and demands of those disciples who are ambitious of perfection a devotion of time and application to its study. Let him, then, who would honour and be honoured by the Institution, investigate, with untiring industry, its profound principles, and examine with close attention the nature and design of its ritual. Let him not linger at the porch, but boldly enter its sanctuary, and he will find, as he proceeds, flowers of wisdom shewing on every side his path, while his progress onward will be marked with an increasing knowledge and augmented love of the Order."

We can easily gather from these few extracts the spirit which has dictated the publication of these lectures. As to the matter they contain, we shall direct our attention to one or two only, as illustrating the general scope of the work, and its value, especially to the inexperienced brother, whose ambition should ever be to seek more and more light. The Lectures are nineteen in number, the subjects of which are as follow:—"The Symbolism of Freemasonry," "The Cable-Tow," "The Lodge as a Symbol of the World," "The Two Pillars," "The Mosaic Pavement," "The Three Movable Jewels," "The Altar," "The Three Great Lights," "The All-Seeing Eye," "Prayer as a Masonic Obligation," "The Lambskin Apron," "The Funeral Emblems," "The Three Steps on the Master Mason's Tracing-Board," "The Obligations of a Freemason," "The Profounder Meaning of the Ritual," "The Universality of Freemasonry," "The Duties and Dangers of a New Lodge," "A Charge Delivered at the Constituting a New Lodge," "The Mark-Master's Degree," "The Royal Arch Degree." Our present remarks will be limited to synopses of two of these, "The Cable-Tow," and "The Obligations of a Freemason." We have been influenced in making this selection by no special motive. Any of the others would have answered our purpose equally well.

The symbol of the Cable-Tow is thus explained. In the first place it reminds a brother of his obligation, and the mystic tie which unites him with his fellows in perfect sympathy and in oneness of principle and purpose. This mystic tie is the *Cable* or great rope which binds and makes him fast, in the first place, "to God, in whom he declares his faith and trust at his entrance" into our Order. It binds him to the observance of His law, to admire His mercies, to reverence His holy name. And the cable itself, that so binds him is love, love of God, and its outcome, the love of his neighbour, the brethren around whom this cable is passed having first claim on his services. Between him and them "it is a threefold cord, not easily broken. No length of time or distance can weaken its binding force; but as the ship is held fast by the cable to the anchor, so is he held fast by the mystic tie in all fraternal duty and kindness to his brother, whose honour and interest he will consult and promote, and whose needs he will be prompt to relieve." The Tie or Cable again binds him to "the Institution which commands his love and honour for the sake of the noble and elevating principles it inculcates and enforces." But this mystic tie is not only a *cable* which *binds*, it is a Cable-*tow*, or strong cord which *draws*. By it we are drawn to each other as brethren. It draws us to the Institution; it draws us to God, to follow and obey His precepts. Then, again, this Tie, like the Cable "of a ship, which is composed of three ropes, each consisting of three twisted cords, the three interlaced in one, making a great rope, which holds fast the ship," holds us fast together with our brethren, our Order, and God, and the mysterious power of the Cable-tow *draws* us in these three directions:—

Our "obligations" as Freemasons are ranged under three heads:—

I. Our obligations to the Institution,
II. Our obligations to the Lodge, and
III. Our obligations to each other.

As to the first, we are under obligation to preserve that high character which our Order has maintained through all time, "to see that it receive no detriment at our hands, by carefully leading a life above reproach, and consistent with the noble principles and tenets it inculcates. We are bound to the practice of every social and moral virtue, each being the basis on which Freemasonry rests. We are bound to the observance of that law which is laid down in the Bible. We owe it also as a duty to maintain the secrets of our Institution, following, in this respect, the advice of King Solomon, "Discover not a secret to another, least he that heareth it put thee to shame, *and thine infamy turn not away.*" It is also part and parcel of our obligation that we make ourselves as assured as possible "of the fitness of the material," that is, of any candidate who may seek admission into our Order, "before we propose, or recommend, or accept it," so that we be not even indirectly the means of introducing one unworthy of such introduction. As regards our "obligations to the Lodge, we must be regular in attending its meetings, to obey its bye-laws and regulations, to pay regularly at the appointed times "our quota of dues," "to submit to the awards of our Brethren, rendered, according to ancient usage, in the Lodge," to preserve its "harmony and unity by our conduct outside, as well as within the Lodge," to behave with decorum during attendance, "putting the Master and Wardens to worship," and not to desert them in their work. Our chief obligation towards one another is to be respectful of our Brother's feelings. Such respect, says Bro. Lawrence, "is no more than that respect which is due to a gentleman were he not a Mason;" but on us, as Masons, it is more obligatory to observe it. And it is for this reason—to avoid giving offence to a brother, and so disturbing the harmony of the Lodge—that all disputes concerning religion and politics are strictly forbidden, and sedulously kept out of its doors. Indeed, on general and broad principles, to wound the feelings of another, from love of greed, or fear of loss, or partisan difference in opinion, or from any selfish motive, is scarcely compatible with the character of a gentleman. But, as Masons, we are all gentlemen, and among us, as brethren, 'tis a shame and an outrage—a sin." We are bound to do our Brother no wrong, nor, as far as we can protect him, permit others to do it, "to aid and assist" him "in his laudable undertakings, and to relieve him in his need, as far as we are able, without injury to ourselves, or those dependent on us," to keep his "secrets, confided to us, more sacredly than we do our own. Our own are ours to do with as we will, but our Brother's are his, entrusted to us for safe keeping, and we cannot, without violation of a sacred trust, impart them to another without his consent." Hath not Solomon written: "Whoso discovereth secrets loses his credit, and shall never find a friend to his mind. Love thy friend, and be faithful unto him; but if thou bewrayest his secrets, follow no more after him; for as a man hath destroyed his enemy, so hast thou lost the love of thy neighbour. As one that lettest a bird go out of his hand, so hast thou let thy neighbour go, and shall not get him again. Follow after him no more, for he is too far off; he is as one escaped out of a snare. As for a wound, it may be bound up; and after reviling there may be reconciliation; but he that bewrayeth secrets is without hope." We must speak well of our brother, consistently, that is, with justice and truth, and "if we know nothing in his favour, silence is better than reproachful or dubious speech." We should tell him of "all danger that may threaten him," nor warn him only, but help, as far as we can, to extricate him from his difficulties.

These synopses of two of the nineteen lectures will amply suffice to convey to our readers something like an adequate idea of the value of this interesting and instructive work. For valuable it is beyond question, both as to the matter it contains, and the pure Masonic spirit in which it is written. The high position in the Craft which Bro. Lawrence attained is of itself our warrant for accepting his *dicta* with the utmost respect, but apart from this, there is in every page of his book the strongest evidence that he must have attained this position by great zeal, great learning, obtained after a most careful study of our symbolism, and a most sincere love for the principles of religion and morality which it inculcates. We are convinced that Bro. Lawrence has acted wisely in acceding to the wishes of his Brethren—over whom in the days that are past he must have presided with such ability—by publishing this series of lectures. We trust they will be the means of securing to him, in his declining years, the reward he so justly deserves, and which unfortunately, as he tells us in his very modest preface, he stands in need of so urgently. The labourer is worthy of his hire, and we trust the brother who has laboured so admirably in the cause of Masonry will have no cause to say his labour has proved a vain effort, and has brought him no reward.

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A TRAMP ON THE CONTINENT, BY THREE I.G.'s.

IT is worthy of mention at the outset of these Notes that the party of tourists, of whom I was one, consisted of three bachelors, each was a Mason, and each followed the occupation of chemist; a further coincidence may be mentioned, all held the same rank in their respective Lodges, namely that of I.G. Having resolved on our tour for the summer of last year, and having carefully read up Murray and other guide books, till, in theory at least, we seemed as familiar with the countries we proposed to visit as if we had traversed them every year of our lives, we set off one fine morning, towards the end of August, and, having taken train at Victoria, reached that dull looking outport on the coast of Sussex known of all men as Newhaven. As our trip was to be a pedestrian one, we had provided ourselves with knapsacks, so that we might have as few *impedimenta* as possible, and to this is due our almost absolute immunity from the often vexatious delays of the Custom house, and the impositions of hotel and other touts. On the Channel passage to Dieppe we felt as much disturbed as the adventurous Robinson Crusoe, who, according to the modern story, was by no means a good sailor:—

> Crusoe was not a *feller de sea*,
> For it made him feel, as it always does me,
> Sick of life, so he staggered below.

However, five or six hours sufficed to reach the quaint port of Dieppe, and having carefully recouped our inner man for the losses it had sustained aboard the steamer, we gaily committed ourselves to the train for Paris. *En route*, we passed Rouen, a quaint city, with, as our readers are perhaps aware, a fine cathedral and some magnificent churches, among them that of St. Ouen being the most prominent. Rouen is naturally interesting to Englishmen. Here resided the Dukes of Normandy, of whom Duke William the Bastard afterwards became our William the Conqueror. Here, too, in the long war of the 15th century, in the reign of our Henry VI., Jeanne d'Arc was burnt as a witch, hence the monument to her memory in the square known as *La Place de la Pucella*. Among the noticeable features of this part of the journey should be mentioned the signal women along the line of route, clad in neat, but somewhat short dresses—no Lord Chamberlain exercises any authority over these people—and pretty white caps. We also saw women working hard in the fields. The women's rights' question, indeed, appears to be settled after a fashion, for the women in France have full liberty to do what in England is left wholly to the men. Arriving at Paris, about 5·30 p.m., we traversed the French metropolis from "west" to "east" for the station, *en route* to Basle, reaching the latter town about 2·30 p.m. the day following, having travelled without intermission through the night. Here a short rest, during which we passed from labour to refreshment, and also took a short stroll to see the lions, and then by rail to Zurich. The mountains between Basle and Zurich afford some pretty bits of scenery, and gave us a foretaste of the grandeur to come. Reaching Zurich at 10 p.m., we drove at once to the Hotel Belle Vue au Lac, for a night's rest. Next morning we were up betimes, and after a pleasant jaunt through the streets, we came to the conclusion it deserves all the good things that have been said of it. We should have no objection, indeed, to be transported *en permanence* to the "Margin of Zurich's fair waters." The town contains some 50,000 people, mostly Protestants, and a Masonic Lodge, "Modestia cum Libertate." According to Murray, the Zurichers have wealth without polish, hence the saying "*Grossier comme un Zurichois*," which, like many other sayings, must be taken with a grain of salt. At all events we found the worthy burghers of Zurich as polite and well-bred as in other parts of Switzerland. Having looked at all the pretty sights, by which we mean not the libraries, and museums, and churches, so much as the pretty scenery—had we not come to enjoy the health-giving breezes which, in our chemical jargon has been described as "the best tonic in the whole Pharmacopœia of Nature"—we walked up the Uetleberg, a mountain of 2,800 ft., just high enough to give us a fine view of the surrounding country, and serve as training for the more trying feats that were to follow. Next day we started early by steamer for Rapperschuwyl, and right heartily did we enjoy the trip. The Zurich lake may have no pretensions to grandeur, but its passive beauty is very pleasing. On reaching Rapperschuwyl we found we were in good time for the train to Ragatz, for the most part a pretty ride along the South Bank of the Wallenstadt Lake, though here and there were hugh precipices, and occasionally tunnels cut through the solid rock. At Ragatz we stayed some four hours, which we turned to good account, by visiting the gorge and baths of Pfaffers, of which we cannot do better than give the following description from Murray:—

"A few yards above the old baths, the sides of the ravine of the Taminya contract in an extraordinary manner, so as to approach within a few feet of each other; a little further they even close over and cover up the river which is seen issuing out of a cavern. The springs are reached through the bath-house, whence a bridge of planks leads to the entrance which is closed by a door. The bridge is prolonged into the gorge [illegible] of a scaffolding or shelf, [illegible] ly laid in a niche [illegible] as far as the [illegible], as the sides of the ra[illegible] them and the [illegible] times one plank, unprotected by railings; at present a platform, 4 feet wide, furnished with a hand-rail, renders the approach to the spring easy for the most timid, and perfectly free from risk. Each person pays 1fr. for admittance. A few yards from the entrance the passage is darkened by the overhanging rock."

The sudden chill of an atmosphere never visited by the sun's rays, the rushing and roaring of the torrent, the threatening position of the rocks above, have a grand and striking effect. It is almost dark in parts where the sides of the ravine overtop one another, actually meeting overhead, so as to form a natural arch. The rocks in many places show marks of having been worn away by the rushing waters. For several hundred yards the river pursues an almost subterranean course, the roof of the chasm being the floor as it were of the valley. In some places the roots of the trees are seen dangling overhead. Had Virgil and Dante been aware of this spot, they would certainly have conducted their heroes through it to the jaws of the infernal regions. The shelf of planks extends 700 yards from the baths. At its extremity, at the bottom of a cavern, rise the springs, at a temperature of about 100° Fahrenheit, the water being received into a reservoir, nearly 15 feet deep, from which it is conducted in pipes to the baths.

The bathing houses and hotels at Ragatz are supplied with hot water from these springs; it is conveyed thither through wooden pipes, 12,500 feet long, and such is the copiousness of the supply that there is a reduction of temperature of only 2° or 3° in this distance of 2½ miles.

From Ragatz we took train for Coire, and there finished up a good day's work. The day following we started on our tramp through the Via Mala and Spluegen Pass for Lake Como and Milan. What we have to say about these places, and of the further progress of the three I.G.'s, I must reserve till some future number.

Y.

CORRESPONDENCE.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.

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LORD CARNARVON'S SPEECH AT THE INSTALLATION.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have perused your leader upon this subject in your issue of 15th inst., but I can find no proper *evidence* in it either in support of Lord Carnarvon or against me. As to the mere name, "Freemason," or "Freemasonry," I am quite ready to admit that the terms or words are old, say 400 years or so, in England at least, but as to the thing signified by these terms or words in, say the 16th century and the 18th, then I consider a great difference existed. An old 15th or 16th century Freemason was a Mason who was free of his guild, not a man who received our three degrees, and knew the secrets of our system of Freemasonry; for our system of Freemasonry, with its three degrees, and their ceremonials, &c., and also its grand idea of the universal brotherhood of man, was not in existence in the 16th century. You refer to certain similarity of ideas pervading our system of Freemasonry and the old Pagan mysteries; but what of that? That does not prove Lord Carnarvon to be right, and the 1717 theory wrong. For the 1717 theory says, that our Freemasonry has a certain connection with these old "mysteries, it being the *renaissance* in a new dress of Pagan mysticism. The connection however is not ancestral, but rather adoptive. When Desaguliers and Anderson manufactured our Freemasonry, in or about A.D. 1717, they made use of the old Pagan ideas, *inter alia*, with other things, just as served their purpose. The architects of King's College, Cambridge, quite possibly "produced a roof which was the despair of Wren," because they were not speculative Freemasons in our sense of the term, for if they had been, their brains might have got so muddled with good wine that they would have been unable to produce good architecture! However, Wren himself was a pretty good architect and how was it that he got along without being a Freemason? And how about the first living architects who are not Freemasons? You also refer to the Church of Rome; but if our Freemasonry existed before 1717, how was it that the Pope's bull of 1738 said that the Society had only been *recently formed?* Had it existed before 1717, the bull, I would expect, would have hinted as much, and also recapitulated all their bad deeds. Then, if our Freemasonry existed before A.D. 1717, how is it that there is no mention of it in the old *extant* records of the Edinburgh, Kilwinning and Aberdeen Lodges, which reach back long before 1717? In fact these old records show and prove that the Edinburgh, Kilwinning and Aberdeen Masons knew nothing of our Freemasonry until some time after 1717. My Own Mother Lodge—the Lodge of Glasgow, St. John, No. 3 bis—has a very fine old Masonic carved box, made in or about A.D. 1684, and the Masons' tools carved thereon, and their position, also show ignorance of our Freemasonry; so with 15th and 16th century books of emblems, &c., which I have examined. I shall not intrude further upon your space, but

I remain, yours fraternally,

Glasgow May 17th. W. P. BUCHAN.

THE POPE AND FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR,—A great social and moral problem is, during the present era, in course of solution: A great [illegible] is from day to day being evolved in the wide area of Christendom. The watchword is equally [illegible] on the ultimate issue equally certain, [illegible] on," has about it a ring, weighty and powerful, but in basing a judgment upon the contemplation of facts and results one might almost be led to fall back upon the hacknied enquiry of Pilate. Looking upon the Pope, not only as the head of one of the contending parties, the generalissimo of one of the contending armies, but the acknowledged infallible mouthpiece of an overwhelming majority, our attention is the more specially attracted to the nature and direction of his last sortie from his beleaguered

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citadel, and we find his Holiness condescending to turn the artillery of invective from the Prince of blood and iron, Dr. Cumming, of Scotland, and all their aggressive allies of toast-drinking, upon the cosmopolitan brotherhood of Freemasons, a brotherhood which may be said to represent the inoffensiveness and loyalty of all the communities into which our race is divided. No weapon formed against it will prosper. Nor even were the Pope able, as he might possibly be willing, to institute a raid upon its members, as is recorded to have been made on the children of Bethlehem, would he find himself nearer his mark than Herod: the Order would carry on, in grandeur and power, the interminable existence which had its birth in the unknown ages of antiquity. But if circumstances do not admit of his Holiness having recourse to the carnal weapons so much in vogue amongst his predecessors, he seems to consider it a duty to exhibit the animus, the manner of spirit he is of, and to let the world at large know his sentiments and the principles which actuate them. To this end he addresses a letter to one of his Bishops, in which he bestows upon him a meed of paternal benedictions for his language and attitude towards Freemasonry. Whatever be the "Secret Mysteries," or the "Nefarious character of the sect," in the estimation of its avowed foes, a very fair and rational opinion may be formed in the matter by the simple process of setting it in direct contraposition to the subjoined unerring and unalterable dicta. "What is particularly useful is the perspicacity with which you demonstrate to all attentive minds the real tendency of the taking words Fraternity and Equality, which have deceived and seduced so many, and the true origin and object of the much boasted liberties of conscience, of public worship, and of the press. After reading your work, no one can doubt that all this came from Freemasonry, to overturn civil and religious order, and, consequently, the Church has wisely condemned those who practise and defend such liberties." Freemasons have here, indeed, wherein to glory, their enemies themselves being their judges. The free and healthy action of that voice in man on which rests all real moral responsibility: the liberty to worship God in public, each one according to his faith and light, and a press untrammelled by caprice or apprehension, not alone a source of information, but at once the mouthpiece and the bar of public opinion. "*Such* liberties" (the Pope himself does not speak of license or abuse) he and his Church condemn. They have the sanction and approval of Freemasonry.

Yours fraternally,
C. B. F.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ENQUIRER.—The subject of your communication will be treated in an editorial next week.

DR. LOTH.—A Review of your work, which is duly to hand, shall appear next week.

We have also to acknowledge receipt of *New England Freemason*, Nos. 1 to 15.

NATIONAL GREAT PRIORY OF THE ORDER OF THE TEMPLE.

AT the Cannon Street Hotel, on the 14th instant, the Earl of Limerick, Great Prior, on the throne, the Report of the Council was amended as to the clause concerning *Past Rank* in the Order, which is recommended to be restored in its entirety. The motion that the Memorial from Dorsetshire should be read and submitted to each Preceptory for consideration was carried by a large majority.

THE GARDEN IN MAY.—In the garden so much depends on the weather during May, that it is difficult to lay down general rules. It is theoretically the month for planting out bedding plants, but in the northern parts of the kingdom, and even the north-eastern English counties, they certainly ought not to be trusted to the beds till the last week, or perhaps, in some seasons, the first week in June. It is better to be in no hurry about it until the weather as quite settled. So, too, dahlias may be planted out, if warm days and nights have set in. Manure-water should be administered towards the end of the month to such roses as are in bud. It will have to be continued vigorously during June, if really good roses are desired. Do not leave too many buds on the standards in such a case, and where three arise from one stalk, mercilessly nipp off the centre one. Late autumn-flowering annuals should be sown at once, and heartsease may now be propagated by cuttings to flower at that season. French beans and scarlet runners must be sown in the kitchen garden. Early celery can be pricked out. Watering must be carefully attended to amongst the growing crops, and especially in the strawberry-beds. This often makes the difference between a good and bad crop of this fruit, while all vegetables which are quickly grown are more succulent and tender. Turnips must be watered in dry weather, or they will all be lost. Potatoes should be carefully from freed weeds, and earthed up as they advance. Last year it was found that the earliest crops were best able to stand against disease; and besides planting early, let them be gathered in as soon as ripe. They only deteriorate by being left in the wet.—"*Cassell's Family Magazine.*"

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—Few ailments are more disheartening, and none more ominous than ulcerations on the surface of the body. Wherever they are situated, it is difficult to cure them unless treated judiciously with some cooling, healing, invigorating application, like this famed Ointment. It has worked wonders in making bad legs strong and sound, even when the power of the blood vessels has nearly been destroyed, and almost entire stagnation of the circulation has resisted every other curative means abortive. No sore, wound, or ulcer can withstand its healing influence, which can be most beneficially exerted during the summer months, when the circulation becomes more active and more easily controllable by proper purifying, soothing and strengthening agents.

THE DRAMA.

"Jeanne Dubarry" at the Charing Cross—Comic Opera at the Gaiety.

MR. Field's experiments at his little theatre at Charing Cross have been generally successful. With "Blue Beard" and "The New Magdalen" he made good hits, but his last dip into the dramatic lucky-bag is hardly likely to be so profitable. Mr. Herman, the author of "Jeanne Dubarry," is evidently inexperienced in the art of writing for the stage. In attempting to write dialogue worthy of the exalted personages of his play he occasionally oversteps that boundary which separates the sublime from the ridiculous, and the most dramatic situation is marred by being too long deferred and too much prolonged. Jeanne Dubarry is, of course, the notorious Madame Dubarry. She is represented as being, at the same time, mistress of the King Louis XV., and the sharer, under the name of Delornie, of an honest passion with a satirical writer named René de Jouvency. René's attacks are directed chiefly against the King and Mdme. Dubarry, and lead ultimately to his arrest. Madame Dubarry's influence with the king procures a pardon, but on learning the real name and position of the lady whom he had loved, under the name of Delornie, René rejects her aid with scorn. His life is saved by the ingenious appeals to the king of a girlish cousin, who had long loved him in secret, and the double discomfiture of the Dubarry ends the play, she being repulsed by the King, who has discovered her secret passion and is rejected by her humble lover. Miss Edith Lynd is the representative of Jeanne Dubarry, and an admirable one in physical respects, but Miss Lynd has much to learn of stage business, and at present is deficient in dramatic force. Mr. Sidney, as René, achieved the success of the evening, and is a welcome acquisition to the ranks of our young actors. The play might have met with more favour had the stage of the Charing Cross been large enough to represent fairly the grandeur and pomp of a court, but no mechanical accessories could have made it a genuine success. "Jeanne Dubarry" is followed by an Operetta, new to London, but already well-known in the provinces, entitled "Cattarina," the joint work of Messrs. Reece and Clay. This little piece is worthy of the reputation of its authors; the libretto is well written, and the music very pretty and catching. Miss Kate Santley appears in the rôle and no more need be said to show how well it is filled. A new tenor is introduced to us in the person of Mr. Walsham, who possesses a very sweet, if not powerful voice, and who only needs a little stage training to make him really valuable in English opera. "Cattarina" was received with great and well deserved favour Mr. Hollingshead is a man of tact, and ready sympathy with public taste; accordingly he does not offer us a solid joint of Shakspeare during this hot weather, but a salad of comic opera. With a well appointed and well trained French company, in temporary possession of the GAIETY, we are promised the production of some of the best works of Auber, Hérold, Halévy, Boieldieu, &c. No opera bouffe, be it understood, but genuine comic opera. Already we have seen "Les Mousquetaires de la Reine," by Halévy, and "La Dame Blanche," by Boieldieu, and the programme will be frequently changed through the short season. Some of the French artists have already taken their places as public favourities; M. Herbert and Laurent, the tenors, M. Dauphin the base, and Mdles. Albert and Arnaud Roques soon confirmed the reputation which they brought with them. We are not inclined, as are some of our critical friends, to exalt foreign art and artists at the expense of our own, and to consider that a Frenchman, merely because he is a Frenchman, must be a better actor than any we can boast. On the contrary, so far as actors are concerned, there are, on the English stage, men who, in their peculiar lines, cannot be surpassed nor hardly equalled in France; but French companies play together better than English ones, there is an air of homogeneity about their performances which makes them appear like a well trained regiment instead of, as is too often the case with our own actors, a fortuitous concourse of atoms.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

The following statement shows the receipts for traffic on the undermentioned railways for the past week, as compared with the corresponding week in 1874:—

Railway.	Miles open. 1875	Receipts. 1875 £	1874 £
Caledonian	737½	54,125	49,279
Glasgow and South Western	315¼	16,815	15,347
Great Eastern	764	53,018	45,910
Great Northern	523	57,165	51,385
Great Western	1,525	116,619	103,[illegible]0
Lancashire and Yorkshire	430	67,612	60,021
London and Brighton	37[illegible]½	36,784	27,191
London, Chatham and Dover	15[illegible]¼	22,112	16,157
London and North Western	1,582½	187,455	166,905
London and South Western	626½	43,992	31,972
London, Tilbury and Southend	45	—	—
Manchester and Sheffield	279½	30,834	29,[illegible]03
Midland	950½	121,183	104,853
Metropolitan	8	9,212	8,50[illegible]
" " District	8	5,391	4,578
" " St. John's Wood	1¼	980	149
North British	839	42,523	38,250
North Eastern	1,593	131,742	101,[illegible]70
North London	12	7,121	6,914
North Staffordshire Railway	190	10,847	9,582
" " Canal	118	1,687	1,599
South Eastern	350	38,798	33,148

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THE THEATRES, &c.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.—This evening and Tuesday, FAUST E MARGHERITA. On Monday, DINORAH. On Thursday, IL TROVATORE. On Friday, LOHENGRIN. At 8.30 each evening.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA, DRURY LANE.—This evening, FAUST. On Monday, LE NOZZE DI FIGARO. On Tuesday, IL TROVATORE. On Thursday, LA SONNAMBULA. At 8.30 each evening On Monday morning, at 2.30, and Wednesday and Friday evenings, at 8.30, OTHELLO.

HAYMARKET.—At 7.30, A FAIR ENCOUNTER, DAVID GARRICK, and THE SERIOUS FAMILY.

ADELPHI.—At 6.45, TURN HIM OUT, NICHOLAS NICKLEBY and THE BUNCH OF BERRIES.

PRINCESS'S.—At 7.30, ROUND THE WORLD IN EIGHTY DAYS.

LYCEUM.—At 6.50, FISH OUT OF WATER. At 7.45, HAMLET. On Saturday, a morning performance at 2.30 only.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.0, TWENTY MINUTES WITH A TIGER. AT 7.30, THE TWO ORPHANS.

STRAND.—At 7.30, AN EARNEST APPEAL. At 8.0, WEAK WOMEN and INTIMIDAD.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 7.45, THE MERCHANT OF VENICE.

GAIETY.—At 8.0, FRENCH COMIC OPERA.

GLOBE.—At 7.0, EAST LYNNE and BLUE BEARD. (Last Nights.)

ST. JAMES'S.—At 7.30, A PHENOMENON IN A SMOCK FROCK, TOM COBB and TRYING IT ON.

ROYALTY.—At 7.45, THE SECRET. At 8.15, LA PERICHOLE. At 10.15, TRIAL BY JURY.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG, OUR BOYS and A FEARFUL FOG.

CHARING CROSS.—JEANNE DUBARRY and CATTARINA.

OPERA COMIQUE.—At 8.0, ANDREA

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, THE ARTFUL DODGE and CHILPERIC.

CRITERION.—At 9.0, GIROFLE GIROFLA.

COURT.—At 7.30, SHORT AND SWEET. At 8.30, LADY FLORA.

SURREY.—KING HENRY IV.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—This Day, SUMMER CONCERT. On Tuesday, UN BALLO IN MASCHERA. On Thursday, GRAND FIREWORK DISPLAY. Open daily. AQUARIUM, PICTURE GALLERY, &c.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.—This day, CONCERT. On Thursday, GRAND GARDEN FETE. Open daily. HENGLER'S CIRCUS, WOMBWELL'S MENAGERIE, &c.

FLORAL HALL CONCERTS—The next will take place on Saturday 29th inst., commencing at 3 o'clock.

POLYTECHNIC.—THE MAGICIAN AND THE GENII, with a NEW GHOST Scene.—ARTIC EXPEDITIONS, Past and Present.—THE BESSEMER BOAT.—FOOD from AFAR, and ECONOMICAL COOKING.—JANE CONQUEST.—THE MECHANICAL LEOTARD.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, and many other Entertainments. Open twice daily, at 12.0 and 7.0. Admission, 1s.

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EGYPTIAN HALL.—MASKELYNE AND COOKE, at 3.0 and 8.0.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL, Langham Place.—Mr. and Mrs. GERMAN REED, at 8.0. Thursday and Saturday, at 3.0 only.

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COMMEMORANDA.

THE business of the past week has been mainly the pursuit, the steady, sloggish, matter-of-fact pursuit of pleasure. There is no mistaking an Englishman who has once made up his mind for a few days' festivity. He is so resolute, so overwhelming in all his preparations. He looks a little childish over it all, more like a harmless imbecile, who suddenly finds himself at liberty to go whither and do what he likes, than a man who feels he has earned a brief respite from labour and means enjoying it. We have it on good authority *Dulce est desipere in loco*, but when people make fools of themselves, they should do it in a sensible kind of way. And the *loci* are alarmingly on the increase. So much so, that *Dulce est sapere in loco* —it is well to be wise occasionally—would seem to be the modern version of Horace's maxim. And the pleasure that is run after, has it any resemblance to the *rale* thing? A holiday like Whit Monday means getting up about the small hours of the morning, a free-fight for standing-room in a railway squash, plenty of gorging and free drinking at frequent intervals, boisterous horseplay, then another hour or two's railway squash—the term, if vulgar, is expressive —and then a return home, more likely than not towards the small hours of the next morning, headachy, out of sorts, or may be, just a little savage with everything and everybody. This is the sort of thing that our holiday makers indulge in with an earnestness of purpose worthy of a better object. However, *de gustibus*, &c. It would not be a holiday, we presume, if the pleasure sought after were a little less ecstatic, a little more sensible. Be this as it may, Whitsuntide has come and gone. The weather was magnificent, the country wore its brightest aspect. No wonder then if Londoners flocked in thousands, and in all directions, to get a sight of the green fields and inhale a little pure air.

The great attraction north of the Thames was beyond all dispute the Alexandra Park and Palace. The Directors had made a liberal provision in the way of amusements. These included a Grand Concert in the large hall, Hengler's Circus, Wombwell's Menagerie, a balloon ascent, several military bands, conjuring by Herr Frikell, athletic sports—these last, by the way, were an utter failure,—with performances dramatic, operatic, and elephantine; in short every conceivable kind of entertainment. The numbers of visitors reached the enormous total of 94,125. Of course, inside the Palace and Grounds all went smoothly enough. There is ample room for even so immense a gathering to distribute itself in comfort, but the getting there, and worse still, the getting away again for home — there was the rub. The railway arrangements proved unequal to the enormous strain. Consequently the long hours of Tuesday morning saw some thousands of holiday folk wending their way home, tired and perhaps disgusted. The Crystal Palace also had its throng of visitors, but the numbers were more manageable, just a little over 40,000. As to amusements, they were much of a muchness—except the fountain display—with those at its Northern rival's, but in both the public thought more of the outdoor than indoor enjoyments. But these were not the only places which offered especial entertainment. All the gardens round and about London had provided something novel in the way of attraction for the

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sight-seers, so that the Londoners had no reason to be dissatisfied. It is seldom we have more brilliant weather, and if the kind of pleasure indulged in had far too much of the make believe about it, that too, we imagine, must be taken as an essential feature in the programme.

Other attractions there were on the same day. At Lord's, the first important match of the season, North v. South, for the benefit of the M.C. Professional Fund, was played. North went first to the wickets, but only put together 90 runs (A. Marshall 13, A Shaw, not out, 26), the bowling of Southerton, who took nine out of the ten wickets, being far too effective. South made 123 (Charlwood 24, Mr. G. F. Grace and Pooley each 22, and T. Pierce 21), or 33 to the good. In its second innings North scored only 72, of which Clayton, the only one who reached double figures, made 27. This left the South just 40 to win, which they did without the loss of a wicket, Mr. W. G. Grace being answerable for 28, and Jupp 13. Thus this three days' match was concluded in a single day, a result unsatisfactory as regards the Professional Fund. There were not far short of 10,000 spectators. The next North and South match is fixed for the 27th, and following days, at Prince's, for the benefit of the Cricketers' Fund. There have been several other matches played, in one of which, Cambridge University v. Surrey, a good total was achieved, the Cantabs making 342 in their only innings, nine of the eleven being in doubles. Surrey scored 170 and 125 in its two innings, being thus defeated by an innings and 47 runs.

In the Athletic world we have to note the Dulwich College sports, held on Saturday, on their own ground, and the Kennington School sports the same day, at Lillie Bridge. At both these meetings the attendance of friends and visitors was very considerable, especially at the former. The Dulwich grounds are prettily situate, and there is always a very fair display of Athletic power. A. Meredith, who won the hurdles, the long jump, the final of the hundred yards, and throwing the cricket ball (distance 93 yds. 2 in.), being the most conspicuous, as he was the most successful performer. Beebe won the walking race, by fair walking, but in slow time. There are few meetings so genial as a Public School Athletic Fête. The boys enter so heartily into the spirit of the contest, and the pretty sisters and she-cousins take such an interest in the various contests. The Athletic Fête in the Alexandra Palace Grounds on Monday presented a sorry contrast. There was no order, no management, in fact. The trial heats should never have been run, and Mr. Clements, the judge, showed judgment in postponing the finals and the two miles open handicap till a future occasion. To-day the most attractive Athletic meeting is fixed to come off at Lillie Bridge. All the world finds its way to this ground on the occasion of the Civil Service Sports. There is always good sport, and good music and gay dresses greatly enhance the pleasure of the night. The various Yacht Clubs have already bestirred themselves into activity, the Royal London, the Royal Alfred, the Royal Ulster and others having held their opening cruises, and not a few matches. Polo, again, is in force at Lillie-bridge, and there is to be a skating-rink there for the ladies. The Four-in-Hand clubs' first meeting is fixed for 5 P.M. on Wednesday next, the *locale* being the Magazine in Hyde Park. The Coaches are now in full swing of work. The Crystal Palace flower show will be held on Saturday next, and there are other botanical fêtes already announced. Thus the entertainments of all kinds as arranged for the present season are both numerous and varied enough to suit all tastes. Nor must we pass over the Royal Academy and the other Picture Galleries, which every one is expected to do more or less thoroughly, or the Operas, both Her Majesty's and the Royal Italian, Madame Christine Nilsson and Mdlle Titiens being the reigning favourites at the former, Madame Adelina Patti and Mdlle Albani at the latter. Perhaps the most important of late has been the production, at the Royal Italian, of Herr Wagner's romantic opera, "Lohengrin." The house was crowded the first night of its performance, the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of Teck, the Dowager Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, the Duke of Connaught and Prince Louis of Battenberg being among the audience. Some parts of the opera were loudly applauded, but others were ill-received. Madame Adelina Patti has also made her first appearance at the same house in Dinorah, while the principal performers at Her Majesty's have been Madame Christine Nilsson and Mdlle. Titiens. There are, likewise, the Floral Hall Concerts, the Saturday "Pops" at the Alexandra Palace, the Crystal Palace Summer Concerts, and various at the Royal Albert Hall and elsewhere. We do not doubt that our musical readers will be able to find some pleasure amidst so many attractions; if they cannot, they must be hard indeed to please.

As to home politics, there is but little to excite interest. Parliament re-assembled after the Whitsun recess on Thursday, and forthwith set itself to work. Abroad, there appears to be a very unsettled feeling. Peaceful rumours are in the ascendant. Any immediate disturbance of the peace of Europe seems, for the present at least, unlikely. But we cannot shut our eyes to the fact that the elements of danger are in great force, and that, any moment, a state of things may arrive, when the efforts to maintain peace of the ablest statesmen may be paralysed. Europe is very much in the position of the man seated over an open barrel of gunpowder, smoking his pipe. It may escape an explosion, but the slightest spark will produce one. As to actual news there is little to record. The French Assembly has met again. The Emperor Francis Joseph has returned to his capital, and experienced a very hearty reception from the Viennese. We fancy few sovereigns stand so high in the estimation of the world as the Emperor-King. Spain is in *statu quo*, but the Pope has paid Masonry the very great compliment of abusing us, the new pamphlet of the Bishop of Orleans being the text of his sermon. We refer to this subject elsewhere.

The regular meeting of the Grand Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday, the 19th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. John Clabon P.G.D., President, in the chair. The Grand Lodge of Benevolence was opened, and Bro. J. Hervey G.S. read the minutes of the former meeting, nominations for brethren to serve on the Board of General Purposes, Colonial Board, Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and the Audit Committee. Grants from the former meeting were confirmed, and new grants, to the amount of £301, were awarded to 13 applicants. The Grand Lodge of Benevolence was then closed. Among the members present were Bros. J. Nunn P.G.S., J. Savage P.G.D., J. Smith P.G.P., Brackstone Baker P.G.D., T. Cubitt P.G.P., J. Brett P.G.P., C. A. Cottebrune P.G.P., Hyde Clark D.G.M. (Turkey), J. E. Saunders P.G.D., Henry Smith, J. A. Rucker P.G.D., W. Smith P.G.S., Griffiths Smith P.G.S., March P.G.S., Jas. Willing, J. R. Stedwell P.G.S., J. Wright G.P., Cox, Crick, Hilton, C. Pulman, L. J. Drew, W. C. Parsons, H. Garrod, Kennett, W. Mann, Purkiss, Middleton, H. Gabb, Payne, W. Stephens, H. M. Levy, J. Hervey G.S., H. G. Buss, Pendlebury, &c.

H.R.H. the M.W. Grand Master, having graciously sanctioned the 77th Anniversary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys being held at the Alexandra Palace, and the Palace being engaged for 30th June, the Board of Stewards have decided, with the consent of the Chairman, the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, M.W. Pro. Grand Master, that the Festival shall be held on Wednesday, 7th July 1875, instead of the date originally fixed. The following brethren have been elected as special Stewards:—

Bros. F. Adlard 7, C. J. Morgan 8, W. B. Marsh 9, Joseph Clever 12, C. W. Gray 22, I. J. H. Wilkins 73, Joseph Griffie 90, John Seex 186, Edward Jones 192, Sig. Rosenthal 435, Thomas J. Cosworth 813, Samuel Hose 1155, Geo. W. Verry 1278, William Kipps 1531, H. Hacker, Prov. of Hants. I. of W.; Thomas Smith, Kent; J. H. Thompson, Middlesex; Charles Moody, Surrey; Thomas J. Morris, W. Yorkshire; Thomas J. Sabine, Mark Degree; Henry Venn, Rose Croix and the Officers of the Board, *ex-officio*. With power to add to their number.

At the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham Street, on Friday, 14th instant, a testimonial was presented to Bro. Gore, late second Clerk at the Mansion House. In the absence of Benjamin Scott, Esq., the Chamberlain, the chair was taken by Bro. J. B. Monckton. He regretted the absence of the Chamberlain, and in the course of an eloquent speech said he was pleased to have had the opportunity of presenting the testimonial, as he (Bro. Monckton) had started in life as an attorney, in Kent, and at that time he never thought that he and Bro. Gore would be associated in the same Corporation. Bro. Gore, it was true, had retired from it early, but he was pleased to say that he was leaving one post of honour

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to fill a similar situation, this time to be Head Clerk in Bristol, where he had been elected without a contest. He then, in the name of his colleagues, presented him with a black marble and bronze timepiece, of novel design, with quarter chimes, manufactured by Sir John Bennett, and a very elegant gold Albert guard, with seal key. The following was the inscription on the timepiece :—

"Presented to J. Holmes Gore, Esq., on his appointment as Clerk to the Justices of the City of Bristol, by his late colleagues of the Corporation of the City of London, in testimony of their esteem and regard. 14th May 1875."

Bro. Gore suitably returned thanks for the valuable gifts, and a vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Monckton for presiding. Among those present were Bro. H. T. Youle, Bro. Capt. Skey, Major Campbell, W. H. Overall, Rev. T. E. L. Jones, G. J. Winzar, Sidney Smith, Bro. Capt. Sewell, Bro. H. C. Overall, F. S. Knott, Murray, &c.

The public celebration of Her Majesty's Birthday is fixed for next Saturday, when there will be the usual parade at the Horse Guards, the usual Ministerial banquets will be given in honour of the event, while, we doubt not, the Clubs, the Theatres, the Royal and other tradesmen, &c., &c., will exhibit their loyalty by brilliant illuminations in gas or oil. The Birthday proper is Monday, the 24th.

The Arctic Expedition, it is expected, will start on the 29th. Every endeavour has been made to furnish the two vessels with not only what is necessary, but also with what will help them to pass away the long winter nights as merrily as can be. It is possible H.R.H. the Prince of Wales may visit the expedition, the officers and men of which have been most hospitably entertained by the Corporation of Portsmouth.

In the list published in our columns last week of subscriptions announced on behalf of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, at the recent festival, the sum of £34 13s appears as having been contributed by North and East Yorkshire. We are requested, however, to explain that of that sum no less than £24 3s was subscribed by the "Alexandra" Lodge, No. 1511, at Hornsea. This Lodge was consecrated in December last, and still boasts of only a comparatively small number of members; and the amount sent up in aid of this deserving charity, through Bro. H. Voight, who attended as a Steward on behalf of the "Alexandra," reflects the highest credit on so young but popular and progressive a Lodge.

We beg to inform those brethren privileged to attend the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, that it will be holden on Wednesday, the 2nd of June, and will be opened at 7 o'clock precisely.

Brother F. Kent, C.C., and P.M. of the Domatic Lodge, No. 177, has been elected a member of the Court of Assistants of the Wheelwrights' Company.

Bro. Syers, the spirited proprietor of the "Oxford," announces his benefit for Thursday, the 10th June next, on which occasion the following artistes will render their services, viz. :—Miss Kate Vaughan, Bro. Harry Jackson, Geo. Leybourne, Bros. Cheevers and Kennedy, F. Jonghmans, Bro. J. H. Ryley, Miss Barnum and Bro. Will. Ryley, in addition to the regular company. The musical arrangements are under the direction of Bro. Jennings.

We have been informed that the following distinguished members of our Order have joined the London Masonic Club :—Bros. the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Hardwicke P.G.M. Cambridgeshire; the Rt. Hon. Lord Sherborne P.G.M. Gloucestershire; the Hon. F. Walpole, M.P., P.G.M. Norfolk; Lord Pelham, M.P.; Samuel H. Wright P.P.G.S.D. Suffolk; Sir Cordy Burrows, Kt., J.P. P.P.G.J.W. Sussex; Sir F. W. Truscott Kt. P.M., P.G.S; Dr. Woodman G.S.B. of England; Captain L. J. Parry P.P.G.D.C. North Wales and Shropshire; F. Binckes P.G.S., Sec. Royal Masonic Institution for Boys; S. Waddy, Q.C., M.P.; J. B. Monckton P.B.G.P. Grand Lodge of England.

SPECIAL.

THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE OFFICE,
FRIDAY, 5.30 p.m.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

THE Annual General Meeting of Life Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution was held this day, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Bro. John Savage P.G.D. in the chair. The Secretary, Bro. Jas. Terry P.G.D.C. Herts, read the minutes of the former meeting, and the report of the auditors, which were confirmed. A vote of thanks was accorded to the R.W. the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot for his admirable presidency at the last Festival, and also to the 175 Stewards who had, by their exertions, succeeded in getting the sum of £7020 16s 6d for the Charity; also to Grand Chapter for their grant of £500, and to Grand Lodge for the grant of £70 for coals for inmates. It was announced that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.W.G.M. had consented to become President of the Institution. The M.W. the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro Grand Master, and Lord Skelmersdale were elected Trustees of the Male and Female Annuity Funds, in place of M.W. the Marquis of Ripon. The Annual Report of the income and expenditure was read, and adopted. Bros. R. W. Stewart, F. Adlard and J. Bellerby were re-elected on the Committee, and Bro. Robert Wentworth Little was elected on the Committee in place of Bro. D. H. Jacobs, who resigned. Bro. the R.W. the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot was elected Trustee of the Male Annuity Fund, in place of the late Bro. Benj. Bond Cabbell, and Bro. Major Creaton P.G.D. was elected on the Sustentation Fund. Bros. J. Symonds P.G.D., Warren and Tattershall were elected auditors. The Chairman announced that, in consequence of the deaths of male and female annuitants, instead of 21 male and 15 females, 28 males and 18 females would be elected. The Election for Annuitants then took place, and resulted as follows :—

MALES.

No. on Voting Paper	Name	Forward	To-day	Total	No. on Poll
12	Cooper, Henry Sarel	—	1120	——	1
14	Beckett, John	—	1032	——	2
22	Partridge, Charles	—	896	——	3
15	Graves, Richard	—	894	——	4
23	Walker, Jeremiah	—	853	——	5
18	Weeks, William	—	819	——	6
21	Halsey, James Wilson	—	792	——	7
1	Hickmott, William	25	753	778	8
24	Ough, John	—	740	——	9
32	Harrex, James Philip	—	713	——	10
17	Suter, Thomas	—	690	——	11
8	Kidd, Richard	161	528	689	12
9	Findley, George Scott	370	290	660	13
5	Champion, George	18	575	593	14
16	John, Frederick Peter	—	592	——	15
27	Sumner, John	—	549	——	16
25	Iron, William Johnson	—	517	——	17
10	Curran, Charles	349	158	507	18
29	Crawley, Young	—	487	——	19
11	Cook, Osbert	52	414	466	20
33	Withers, James	—	411	——	21
30	Gibbons, Robert	—	410	——	22
3	Lord, Thomas	253	145	398	23
13	Stafford, Thomas	—	377	——	24
2	Pilling, William	57	318	375	25
6	Earnshaw, John	5	324	329	26
31	Low, George	—	326	——	27
7	Manger, Nicholas	81	170	251	28

The following unsuccessful candidates polled as under :—

4	Hagan, Charles	—	6	6	—
19	Rogers, John	—	72	——	—
20	Roads, Charles	—	138	——	—
26	Greathead, William	—	5	——	—
28	Noel, John	—	14	——	—

FEMALES.

28	White, Sarah	—	867	——	1
22	Fenton, Eleanor Christiana	—	790	——	2
26	Newnham, Sarah	—	789	——	3
7	Stuart, Margaret	138	628	766	4
29	Gee, Nancy	—	753	——	5
1	Hodgson, Ann	399	299	698	6
25	Warriner, Mary	—	684	——	7
12	Bright Hester	137	538	675	8
31	Hampton, Mary Ann Martha	—	693	——	9
34	Dewhirst, Mary Anne	—	624	——	10
23	Au erson, Elizabeth	—	613	——	11
14	Stainbank, Harriet Cecilia	18	564	582	12
33	Buckley, Martha	—	573	——	13
5	Mills, Henrietta	95	453	548	14
4	Radmore, Ann	6	532	538	15
11	Clarke, Ann	176	351	527	16
13	Dawson, Esther	225	284	509	17
6	Stagg, Maria	93	406	499	18

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DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be greatly obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the kingdom would favour us with a copy of their summonses each time of issue.

SATURDAY, 22nd MAY.

1297—West Kent, Forest Hill, Sydenham.

149—Peace, Masonic Rooms, Meltham.

MONDAY, 24th MAY.

4—Royal Somerset House and Inverness, Freemasons' Hall.
26—Castle Lodge of Harmony, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.
45—Strong Man, Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell Green, at 8 (Instruction).
183—Unity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
902—Burgoyne, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
905—De Grey and Ripon, Caledonian Hotel, Adelphi.

R. A. 25—Robert Burns, Freemasons's Hall.

45—St. Paul's, Masonic Hall, Birmingham.
48—Industry, Freemasons' Hall, West-street, Gateshead.
627—St. John's, Masonic Temple, Halifax-road, Dewsbury, Yorkshire.
909—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.

R. A. 241—Friendship, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
R. A. 302—Charity, Masonic Hall, Bradford.

TUESDAY, 25th MAY.

14—Tuscan, Freemasons' Hall.
92—Moira, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
259—Prince of Wales, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.
1158—Southern Star, Montpelier Tavern, Walworth.

R. A. 21—Cyrus, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
R. A. 46—Old Union, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.

178—Antiquity, Royal Hotel, Wigan.
226—Benevolence, Red Lion Hotel, Littleborough.
449—St. James', Freemasons' Hall, Halifax.

R. A. 268—Union, Queen's Arms, Ashton-under-Lyne.
R. A. 1094—The Temple, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, 26th MAY.

2—Antiquity, Freemasons' Hall.
193—Confidence, White Hart, Abchurch Lane, at 7.30 (Instruction).
212—Euphrates, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, Basinghall-street.
507—United Pilgrims, Horns Tavern, Kennington.
753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood.
754—High Cross, Seven Sisters Tavern, Page-green, Tottenham.
896—Temperance in the East, 6 Newby Place, Poplar.

32—St George, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool.
183—Integrity, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
210—Duke of Athol, Nottingham Castle Inn, Denton.
220—Harmony, Garston Hotel, Garston.
266—Naphtali, Masonic Rooms, Market-place, Heywood.
274—Tranquillity, Boar's Head Inn, Newchurch, near Manchester.
290—Huddersfield, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield.
304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
324—Moira, Wellington Inn, Stalybridge.
363—Keystone, New Inn, Whitworth.
503—Belvidere, Star Hotel, Maidstone (Instruction).
724—Derby, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
750—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Cleckheaton, Yorks.
934—Merit, Church Inn, Whitefield.
1083—Townley Parker, Star Inn, Bradford, near Manchester.
1119—St. Bede's, Mechanics' Institute, Jarrow.
1219—Stanleyans, Dog and Partridge Hotel, Fennel-street, Manchester.
1283—Ryburn, Sowerby Bridge.
1392—Egerton, Stanley Arms Hotel, York-street, Cheetham, near Manchester.
1450—Ashbury

R. A. 43—Unanimity, Derby Hotel, Bury.

THURSDAY, 27th MAY.

General Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
24—Mount Moriah, Freemasons' Hall.
99—Shakespeare, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.

R. A. 29—St. Albans, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
R. A. 657—Canonbury, Masons' Arms, Masons' Avenue, Basinghall-street.

39—St. John the Baptist, Masonic Hall, Exeter.
78—Imperial George, Assheton Arms Hotel, Middleton.
100—Friendship, Crown and Anchor Hotel, Great Yarmouth.
111—Restoration, Freemasons' Hall, Darlington.
212—Mona, Masonic Rooms, Castletown.
269—Fidelity, White Bull Hotel, Blackburn.
286—Samaritan, Green Man Hotel, Bacup.
289—Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
348—St. John, Bull's Head Inn, Bolton.
367—Probity and Freedom, Bull's Head Inn, Smallbridge, near Rochdale.
504—Downshire, 90 Duke Street, Liverpool.
810—Craven, Devonshire Hotel, Skipton.
816—Royds, Spring Gardens, Wardle.
904—Phœnix, Ship Hotel, Westgate, Rotherham.
935—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Salford.
971—Trafalgar, Commercial-street, Batley, Yorks.
1126—Oak Wood, Romiley Arms, Romiley.
1418—Fraternity, Freemasons' Hall, Stockton-on-Tees.
1459—Ashbury, Justice Birch Hotel, Hyde-road, West Gorton, near Manchester.

R. A. 307—Good Intent, White Horse, Hebden Bridge, near Halifax.
R. A. 337—Confidence, Commercial Inn, Upper Mill.
R. A. 1214—Stanhope, Freemasons' Hotel, Upper Scotchill, near Batley, Yorks.
K. T.—Plains of Sharon, Cross Keys Inn, Burnley.
M.M. 32—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.

FRIDAY, 28th MAY.

197—Jerusalem, Freemasons' Hall.
780—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge.
861—Finsbury, Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton.

R. A. 134—Caledonian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
R. A. 862—Whittington, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.

62—Social, Queen's Hotel, Manchester.
1061—Triumph, Market Hotel, Lytham.
1585—Gladesmuir, Red Lion Hotel, Barnet, Herts.

R. A. 152—Virtue, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
K. T. 53—Royal Kent, Masonic Hall, Newcastle.

SATURDAY, 29th MAY.

R. A. 26—Harmony, Royal Hotel, Wigan.

IRELAND.

TUESDAY—124—Seapatrick, Masonic Hall, Banbridge.
" 195—St. Patrick's, Masonic Rooms, Belfast.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—349—St. Clair, Freemasons' Hall.
TUESDAY—151—Defensive Band, Alexander Hall, Cockburn-street.
" R. A. 40—Naval and Military, Freemasons' Hall.
WEDNESDAY—112—St. John, Fisher-row, Royal Hotel, Musselburgh.
THURSDAY—382—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall.
FRIDAY—223—Trafalgar, 54 Bernard-street, Leith.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Angel Lodge, No. 51.—The monthly meeting was held on 18th May, at the Lodge Room, Cups Hotel, Colchester. Present—Bros. Charles Cobb W.M., A. Welch S.W., G. Gard Pye J.W., the D.P.G.M of the Province (Bro. Matthew E. Clark), Bro. Fred. A. Cole I.P.M., and about 30 brethren. The ceremonies of initiation and passing having been performed by the W.M. in his usual able manner, the brethren proceeded to the election of W.M. for the ensuing year, when their choice was unanimous in favour of Bro. Welch the S.W. Bro. W. Slaney, the veteran Treasurer of the Lodge, was re-elected to that post, as was also the Tyler, Bro. Gunner. An interesting ceremony then took place, viz.:—the presentation of a handsome testimonial to Bro. T. J. Ralling, who has filled the office of Honorary Secretary for more than four years. The Worshipful Master having invited Bro. Ralling to advance to the pedestal, addressed him as follows:—Bro. Ralling, I have been instructed by the Past Masters, Officers, and Brethren of this Lodge, to present you this evening with a mark of their appreciation of the way in which you have carried out the duties of Honorary Secretary of this Lodge during the last few years. I can assure you that the brethren generally feel that the duties have been so onerous, and that you have carried them out with such skill and ability, that these circumstances call for a mark of their approval. With respect to the Past Masters, I am sure they appreciate the way in which you have aided them, and personally I may say I have received the greatest attention and assistance at your hands—in fact, I could not have carried out the duties of my office had I not been aided as I have been. We have been favoured, by the kindness of our Brother Atkins, with valuable assistance in this presentation. He has, with the ability and skill which has always characterised him, and also with great kindness, engrossed the sentiments of this Lodge on the vellum which you see before you. I will now read it, so that you may hear what is on it. Bro. Cobb then read the following inscription, richly engrossed on vellum, by Bro. C. Wilson Atkins, and handsomely framed:—Angel Lodge, No. 51, of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England. To Thomas J. Ralling, Secretary:—Dear Sir and Brother,—We the Worshipful Master, Wardens, Past Masters and Brethren of the Angel Lodge, in presenting you with the accompanying Testimonial, embrace this opportunity to convey to you the very high sense of our appreciation of your valued and zealous services in promoting the interest of our Lodge, and of Freemasonry in general, during the years that you have so ably performed the arduous duties of Secretary, and we also express our sincere wish that the Great Architect of the Universe will bestow on you the blessing of health in this world, to perform the duties He may call upon you to do, and the greater blessing of happiness in the Grand Lodge above. Signed on behalf of the brethren:—Chas. Cobb W.M., Alfred Welch S.W., G. Gard Pye J.W., Fred. A. Cole I.P.M. The Worshipful Master continued—The form of testimonial we have decided upon, Bro. Ralling, is a watch, and I trust you may long live to wear it. I cannot add anything to the sentiments on that tablet: they express the sentiments of the whole Lodge, and they are ratified and confirmed by the presence of the worthy brethren you see around you. May you long live to carry out the duties of Secretary, and to wear the watch I now present you. Allow me to congratulate you, Bro. Secretary, on this occasion. (Applause.) In reply, Bro. Ralling said: Right Worshipful Sir, Worshipful Master, and Brethren,—You will readily believe me when I say that I do not think I ever was placed in a more difficult position than that in which I find myself at the present moment. If I were an orator, like some of our brethren, I might not feel any diffidence, but I can assure you that I am perfectly at a loss adequately to express my feelings on the present occasion. A distinguished public man, in addressing a large gathering in this very room but a few evenings since, stated that whilst listening to the speech in which his health had been proposed, he had had some little misgivings as to his own identity. I fear I must plead guilty to a feeling somewhat akin to his, for after listening to the excessively kind and flattering remarks in which our W.M. has conveyed to me this handsome testimony of your esteem, I have felt that my poor services have been, to say the least, very much overrated. It is true I have, by your continued confidence, occupied this post for more than four years, and during that time my earnest endeavour has been to carry out the duties to the very best of my ability; but the only reward which I have desired has been your approval where it could be justly bestowed, and your forbearance in any cases in which I may have been found wanting. I have always felt my position to be one of great trust and responsibility, not only in being the medium through which all the funds of the Lodge are conveyed to the Treasurer, but as being answerable for many little matters which do not come before the Lodge at our monthly meetings. On every occasion it has been my endeavour to uphold the dignity of the Craft generally, and of this ancient Lodge in particular, and to promote by every means in my power the comfort and convenience of individual brethren. In this, however, I cannot claim to be an exception to the generality of our members. Do we not meet here for a common object? Are we not all zealous for our Craft, and jealous for the honour and credit of our

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Lodge? and I feel sure that there are many brethren who would have fulfilled the Secretary's duties with far greater ability than I have done, though, I hope I may be allowed to say, not with a more earnest desire to do their duty. We are reminded in the course of our ceremonies that nature has implanted in our breasts deep and indissoluble attachment to the land of our birth; and this, I think, may be extended to the Lodge which saw our birth in Masonry. At all events, that feeling of attachment has always influenced me in the fulfilment of my duties. I have felt that, as a dutiful child, I was bound to do all in my power to further the interests of my mother Lodge, even if at times it may have required a slight stretch of my cable-tow; and I hope I may take this handsome gift of yours as an index that I have been to some extent successful. I thank you all, from the bottom of my heart, for the great kindness you have exhibited towards me, not only in the heyday of pleasure, but in the time of affliction; and in accepting this beautiful testimonial, allow me to say that I shall never look upon it without feelings of the greatest pleasure, not only on account of its intrinsic value, but as an evidence of what I esteem far more highly—the good will and good opinion of my Masonic brethren. Once more I thank you. The Worshipful Master: Brethren, I feel that our thanks are due to Brother Atkins for the great skill and ability he has shown in executing this parchment. It is really a work of art, and I am sure I cannot be wrong in moving that a cordial vote of thanks to Bro. Atkins be entered on the minutes. Bro. Welch (Senior Warden): I have much pleasure in seconding the motion. Bro. Ralling: Perhaps I may be allowed to add my own special thanks to Bro. Atkins for so kindly devoting his time and talents in my behalf. I ought to have done so just now, but under the peculiar circumstances of my position, I am sure Bro. Atkins will not feel that I intended any slight to his beautiful workmanship. It entitles him to my warmest thanks. The motion was put and carried unanimously. The watch, which is a handsome keyless English gold lever, bears Bro. Ralling's initials in monogram, and also the following inscription:—Presented to Bro. T. J. Ralling, by the brethren of the Angel Lodge of Freemasons, No. 51, in grateful recognition of his valued and efficient services as Secretary. Colchester, 18th May 1875.

Faith Chapter, No. 141.—This Chapter met on Wednesday, the 19th instant, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street. Comps. C. C. Taylor, the M.E.Z., in the first chair, N. Gluckstein H., and C. Hogard J. There were also present Comps. E. Gottheil P.Z., W. Gompertz S.E., M. Bamberger Treasurer, J. Constable S.N., Pinder as P.S., Longstaff Janitor, and a number of lay companions. Bros. Weingott and Kinnear having been duly introduced, obtained the privileges of the degree in accordance with the prescribed form. In performing the somewhat difficult ceremony the M.E.Z. proved how perseverance, and a resolute will, may conquer obstacles which timid minds would shrink from in despair. There are not a few who complacently accept the coveted honour of First Principal of a Royal Arch Chapter who most unconcernedly ignore the fact that to fill so exalted a position honourably and creditably a tolerable acquaintance at least with the ritual is of the first importance. In these cases they quietly depute a P.Z. of their own, or, if that be not practicable, an obliging one from another Chapter to do the work which properly devolves upon the presiding chief. Comp. Taylor, however had had a truer conception of what was expected from him. He set an excellent example, by showing that although the nature of his daily avocations prevents him from bestowing much time or thought upon the acquisition of the requisite knowledge, he nevertheless managed to make himself sufficiently proficient to enable him to conduct the business of the Chapter to the satisfaction of its members. After a repast, exceedingly well served, under the superintendence of Comp. W. Smith, and to judge by the bright, happy and contented faces surrounding the board, greatly appreciated by the assembly, the various toasts were disposed of. In proposing the health of the M.E.Z., Comp. E. Gottheil P.Z. expressed his surprise and gratification to find that, in spite of adverse circumstances, Comp. Taylor had found time for the attainment of the knowledge necessary for the successful conduct of the business in the Chapter; for this our admiration may be freely given. But the M.E.Z. had another claim upon our esteem, arising from his amiable disposition, noble aspirations, his tact and genial temperament, qualities quite as essential to the well-ruling of either Lodge or Chapter as a thorough acquaintance with the ritual. These qualities were eminently conspicuous in the First Principal, the companions therefore may rest satisfied that while under such guidance the future prosperity of the Chapter is secure. In reply, the M.E.Z. said he felt deeply grateful for the kindness and forbearance which had ever been manifested towards him. Whatever his deficiencies, and of these none were more conscious than himself, they would give him credit that whenever he undertook a duty, he never shirked, but endeavoured to perform it to the best of his abilities. He would take this opportunity to express his grateful thanks to Comps. N. Gluckstein the H. and Hogard the J. of this Chapter. He was sure the companions must have been pleased and highly gratified with the way in which these two officers performed their onerous duties. Great thanks were also due to Comps. Pinder and Constable, for their valuable aid to Comp. Gompertz, upon whom so much depended, and last, but certainly not least, to Comp. Bamberger, the Hon. Treasurer, who, having the reputation of being a millionaire, is undoubtedly the right man in the right place, an advantageous man, a man capable of being drawn upon to any amount. To each of these compliments the several companions responded in felicitous terms. Comps. Weingott and Kinnear responded to the toast for the exaltees. Comps. Barnett, Constable, Pinder and Kinnear contributed to the pleasures of the evening by various songs, and the happy gathering dispersed at the hour of ten.

Bedford Lodge, No. 157.—A meeting of this Lodge, among whose members are many brethren distinguished in the Craft, was held on Friday evening, 14th May, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields, Bro. L. J. Drew in the chair. Follitt S.W., Walton J.W., Hill P.M. Secretary, Creak S.D., Poole J.D., Buckhurst I.G., and Past Masters, J. Cubitt, Past Grand Pursuivant, W. Holland, Brander, Briggs and Smith. The Lodge having been opened in due form, Bros. Liddall, Gill and Gunter were passed to the degree of Fellow Craft, and Mr. Waterhouse, having been ballotted for, was duly initiated into the Order, the ceremonies being very well rendered by the W.M. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a capital banquet provided by Bro. Francatelli and superintended by Bro. Knill. The W.M. proposed the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts, which were received with great enthusiasm. Bro. Briggs P.M. proposed the toast of the W.M. in eulogistic terms, which was duly responded to. Bro. Mitchell, of the St. Andrews Lodge, responded as a visitor. The toasts of the Wardens, Officers and the Tyler's toast concluded a very agreeable evening.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—A meeting was held on Wednesday, 19th May, at Bro. Chard's, White Hart, Abchurch Lane, when there were present Bros. Walker W.M., Blackhall S.W., I. Botibol J.W., Blinkhorn S.D., Bedell J.D., Craske I.G., &c. Lodge was opened in first degree, and Bro. S. Botibol, a candidate for second degree, having answered the usual questions, was entrusted, and retired. The Lodge was then opened in the second degree, and Bro. S. Botibol was duly passed. Bro. Gomm, a candidate for third degree, answered the usual questions. The Lodge was then opened in the third degree, and Bro. Bedell, having previously answered the several questions, was raised to the degree of M.M. It was then proposed, and carried unanimously, that Bro. Blackhall be W.M. at the next meeting. The Lodge was then formally closed, and the brethren separated.

St. John's Lodge, No. 221.—Met on 19th of May 1875, at Commercial Hotel, Bolton. Present—Bros. R. Goome W.M., J. M. Ratter S.W., C. Stanley J.W., James Richardson S.D., Job H. Greenhalph J.D., J. W. Taylor P. Prov. G. Org. D.C., Thos. Whitaker Steward, C. Walker, Pro. G. Tyler, Tyler, Matthew Fielding Secretary, G. P. Brockbank P. Prov. G.S.D. Treasurer. Past Masters—Bros. T. Mitchell, Ferguson, Morris. Visitor—Bro. J. Walker, W.M. Lodge 37, Bolton. Business transacted—Opened at 6 p.m., confirmed minutes, proceeded to 3rd degree, raised Brother James Hoyle, closed to 2nd degree, passed Bros. William Hoyle and William Broughton, closed at 8 p.m, adjourned to banquet.

Frederick of Unity, No. 452.—The first regular meeting was held on Tuesday, May 18th, at the Station Hotel, Sutton. Present:—W. Bros. Arthur J. Dickinson W.M., W. Stanley Masterman S.W., J. W. Sugg J.W., J. Robins P.M. and Treasurer, Magnus Ohren P.M. and Secretary, A. F. Jeffery J.D., H. Frances D.C., Edwin H. Sugg Organist, Chas. H. Edmands I.G., Wm. Church Poole I.P.M., Bros. G. Edward Ohren, F. A. Manning, S. H. Christmas, and W. C. Holmes. Visitors:—Bros. Major George Barlow S.W. 321, S. C. Burke Prov. Grand Master for Jamaica (Scotch Const.), Robert Burder 1347, D. B. Woodward P.M. 171, and E. M. Haigh P.M. 29 and P.G.S. The minutes of last meeting were read, confirmed and signed. Bros. Christmas and G. Edward Ohren were raised, and also, at the request of the W.M. of the Lorne Lodge, No. 1347, Bro. R. E. Burder, who has been initiated and passed in the Lorne Lodge. Bro. Holmes was passed. The Secretary reported that Bro. Charles M. Ohren had been raised in the South Norwood Lodge, No. 1139, and Bro. John Wm. Gray had been passed and raised in the Stockwell Lodge, No. 1339, since the meeting in August last. The S.W., Bro. Wm. Stanley Masterman, was unanimously elected W.M., and Bro. James Robins P.M. was unanimously re-elected Treasurer. Bro. Magnus Ohren P.M. and Secretary moved, according to notice, "That the last edition of the bye-laws of this Lodge being exhausted, that the 'Standing Committee' be requested to revise the present bye-laws, and report thereon at the next meeting of the Lodge, with cost of reprinting," which was agreed to. The Standing Committee's Report was received and adopted. The accounts had been audited, and the sum in the Treasurer's hands was £68 1s. Arrears, £50 10s 6d. A letter was read from the widow of the late Rev. O. F. Owen, requesting that a petition be recommended to the Lodge of Benevolence from this Lodge, being the last Lodge of which the late brother was a subscribing member. The petition was agreed to, and the recommendation signed by the W.M., Wardens and Past Masters, and a sum of five guineas awarded to Mrs. Owen from the Lodge Fund of Benevolence. The Lodge was then closed, and the members sat down to a capital banquet.

Windsor Castle Lodge, No. 771.—The last meeting of the winter session of this Lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, St. Albans-street, Windsor, on Tuesday, 11th May. Bro. Greville Horsley Palmer W.M. The Lodge was opened in due form. The business of the evening consisted in raising Bros. Lester and Gerster to the 3rd degree, and also the initiation of Mr. Joseph Johnson, Windsor, into the mysteries of the Order. A report of the committee on the revision of the bye-law was submitted to the Lodge, and agreed upon. After which, a most interesting event occurred, viz.:—the presentation of a handsome testimonial to Bro. Devereux, the Senior P.M. of the Lodge in acknowledgment of his past and valuable services. Bro. Devereux is one of the founders of No. 771, and through his untiring zeal and energy was erected, opened and dedicated in the year 1864, a most beautiful Masonic Temple, of which every brother connected with it has just reason to be proud. The fabric itself was erected originally by Sir Christopher Wren, the Grand Master of England, in the reign of Charles II., and it was through Bro. Devereux's energy that the freehold was purchased, and interior of the building adorned and embellished, this temple is to be solely devoted to the

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purposes of Masonry. It is very gratifying to the members that the various degrees are carried out with dignity and solemnity. The gifts to Bro. Devereux consisted of a handsome clock, a purse of money, and a vellum scroll; also, let us add, the hearty good wishes of the brethren of the Lodge to which he has been so long and zealously attached. Bro. Devereux, thorough Mason as he is, may not be known to the Masonic world generally, but he is highly appreciated by the brethren of Berks and Bucks, of which province he was for some years the Provincial Grand Secretary. The meeting was numerously attended.

St. Oswald Lodge, No. 910, Pontefract.—Met on 19th May 1875. Present—Bros. John Simpson P.M. as W.M., Samuel Slack P.M. as S.W., the Rev. G. S. Dunbar Chaplain and J.W., A. J. Tolson S.D., Dr. Simms J.D., Stewart Lowden I.G., Sergeant Major Blake Tyler, A. B. Timbrell Secretary, A. J. Tolson Treasurer. Past Masters Bros. T. W. Tew D.P.G.M., Savile Wood, J. Horne, Dr. Simpson; Bros. G. Malcolm, J. Gledhill Organist, A. E. Fox, J. W. Lake. Business transacted:—The Secretary announced that he had received from the Lodge of St. John's, Howick, No. 111, under jurisdiction of Grand Lodge of Scotland, two books of lottery tickets, which an accompanying circular requested him to dispose of, the proceeds to be devoted to the clearing off of the debt of the Masonic Hall at Hawick. Bro. Slack passed a severe censure on such a practice, which he stigmatised as an abuse of Masonry, and utterly unworthy of Masons. He proposed that the Secretary be instructed to return the tickets, with an intimation that such proceedings could not be countenanced; and further, that all the spare funds of this Lodge were devoted to English Charities. Bro. J. W. Lake was passed to the second degree. Bro. Savile Wood proposed that an illuminated congratulatory address be presented by the Lodge to Bro. Tew, on his accession to the office of D.P.G.M. of West Yorkshire. Bro. Tew, after thanking the brethren for this cordial expression of their good will, hoped that at the quarterly supper next month every brother would consider himself his guest.

Priory Chapter, No. 1000.—A Convocation of this Chapter, the first since the consecration, was held on Wednesday, the 12th inst., at the Middleton Hotel, Southend. Comps. Wigram M.E.Z., Phillips H., H. Lucking J., Wardell P.S., J. Willing jun. 1st Assistant, Cowper 2nd Assistant, Weston Treasurer, J. C. Johnstone S.E., Frost, &c. The Chapter was opened. The bye-laws were read and unanimously adopted. Fifteen propositions for exaltation were handed in, for which a Lodge of Emergency was called for 16th June. The Chapter was then closed, and the M.E.Z. announced that any companions sojourning in Southend would have a hearty welcome.

Lodge of Montefiore, No. 1017.—A meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Bro. Grunebaum occupying the chair, S. V. Abraham as S.W., A. Eskell P.M. as J.W., L. Jacobs Treasurer, E. P. Albert Assistant Grand Pursuivant Secretary, T. Gulliford S.D., J. De Solla I.P.M., and several other brethren. Bro. A. Eskell, late P.M. of this Lodge, was elected a joining member. Ballots were taken for the admission of Messrs. Cooper and Hundler, who were accepted and initiated into the Order. Bros. Berliner and Lee, having shown their proficiency, were passed to the degree of Fellow Crafts. Bro. Proust was raised to the 3rd degree. It was then unanimously resolved, that Bro. E. P. Albert should be elected a privileged member; also, that it be engrossed on vellum the notification of his having been selected by H.R.H. The Prince of Wales M.W.G.M. as Assistant Grand Pursuivant. There being no other business the Lodge was closed, and the brethren separated.

Middlesex-Lebanon Lodge, No. 1326.—The Installation meeting of this young but rapidly increasing Lodge was held on the 15th inst. at the Red Lion Hotel, Hampton, Bro. Col. F. Burdett P.G.M. Middlesex being present, and Bros. W. Hammond P.G.S. Middlesex W.M., H. A. Dubois P.G.A.D.C. Middlesex, P.M. 1423, S.W., J. W. Jackson J.W., E. Gilbert S.D., F. Walters P.G.P. Middlesex, P.M., Secretary, C. W. Fox I.G., H. Potter P.M. W.S., J. T. Moss P.G.R. Middlesex I.P.M., &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Mr. W. Crush was initiated. Bros. C. Lecop and F. H. Davis, No. 1423, were passed to the 2nd degree. A board of Past Masters was then formed, and Bro. Hammond P.M. and W.M. elect was re-installed into the chair. After the customary salutation he invested his officers, viz.:—Bros. E. Gilbert S.W., C. W. Fox J.W., S. Wickens P.M. Treasurer, F. Walters P.M. P.G.P. Middlesex re-invested Secretary for the fifth time, R. W. Williams S.D., J. Hammond P.M. J.D., J. W. Baldwin W.M. 1123 I.G., W. Stanton D.C., H. Potter P.M. W.S., H. Gloster E.S., J. Gilbert P.G. Tyler Middlesex Tyler. Several candidates were proposed for initiation. The other business having been disposed of the Lodge was closed. Above 50 brethren then sat down to a very excellent banquet. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, and the brethren separated. The visitors were Bros. J. Barnett 87, Trew 359, J. A. Moore 1423, F. H. Davis 1423, T. C. Walls I.G. 141, F. W. Kent 1512, H. Faija 1423, W. A. Simmons 1423, and Arnold 1512.

Kennington Lodge, No. 1381.—A banquet in celebration of the Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.W.G.M. of England was held at the Surrey Club House, Kennington Oval, on Wednesday, the 28th ult., and was exceedingly well attended by the brethren. Bro. Allatt, of the Southern Star was present as a visitor. Amongst the members of the Lodge present were Bros. Gardiner W.M., Everett S.W., W.M. of the Donatic, Reeves S.D., Higgins J.D., Koch P.M. Lily of Richmond I.P.M., Stuart P.M. Sec.; Pope P.M., Webb I.G. Upon the removal of the cloth, the W.M. gave "The Queen and Craft," which was well received and responded to by the brethren. In proposing the health of the M.W.G.M., the W.M. stated that he hoped the brethren would excuse his being somewhat longer in prefacing this toast than on former occasions. He had just come from assisting at one of the greatest gatherings ever witnessed in England, and an event that he should ever remember as a red letter day in his Masonic career. He felt assured that not only every Freemason, but every true-born Englishman would be proud of the position H.R.H. the Prince of Wales had taken that day as the future representative of this protestant country. He could well remember, although young, the death of the Duke of Sussex, and his father being an old, and, he believed, a worthy provincial Mason was, in concert with his neighbouring brethren, grieved at the loss of so distinguished a nobleman and so good a Mason. He also said that he likewise remembered a likeness of the M.W.G.M. in full Masonic costume being published and almost revered by his numerous provincial brethren for his past services to the Craft, and from those early impressions he then thought there was something in Freemasonry more than an empty name, which idea had increased as he grew in years. In conclusion, he hoped that the Craft would continue to prosper under the rule of Albert Edward, and that Englishmen would for many years to come, be able to sing, with heart and voice,

Among our ancient mountains,
And through our lovely vales,
Oh let the prayer re-echo,
God bless the Prince of Wales!

This toast, it is needless to state, was most enthusiastically received, and Bro. Walls contributed the Anthem "God Bless the Prince of Wales." The I.P.M. proposed the toast of the W.M. The W.M. then gave the health of the S.W., who had declined three other invitations that evening, in order to be present at the Kennington banquet. Bro. Everett, in replying to the compliment paid him, said that he felt strongly allied to the Kennington Lodge. He was interested in the welfare of the Lodge as one of its founders, also he was connected with the Surrey Club, at whose Club House they met, and he was anxious and desirous to support the present W.M. in every way in his power. The other toasts then followed in quick succession, Bros. Koch, Stuart, and Pope replying for the Past Masters. The latter, who had been Lodge caterer since its formation, made an excellent speech in bidding the brethren farewell in that capacity. Several other toasts followed, and the brethren separated at a rather late hour, after spending a most enjoyable evening.

Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, No. 1507.—The regular meeting was held on Friday, 14th instant, at the Metropolitan Club, 269 Pentonville Road. Bro. C. J. Scales as W.M., J. Willing jun. S.W., Yates J.W., Berry I.G., T. Adams P.G.P. Preceptor, and Bros. Cavet, Blees, Ormeston, &c. The ceremony of the first degree was rehearsed by the W.M. Bro. J. Willing then occupied the chair and performed the ceremonies of the second and third degrees, all of which were perfectly rendered. Bros. Kuttenbrun and Shanklin were elected joining members. A vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Scales for his occupation of the chair, and Bro. Jas. Willing, who had correctly performed the two ceremonies, was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week. This Lodge of Instruction is under good Preceptorship, and excellent working is thereby ensured.

A NEW MASONIC HALL FOR BARTON-ON-HUMBER.

(From the *Hull and Lincolnshire Times.*)

ON Wednesday last this little Lincolnshire town was all astir, that day having been fixed for the laying of the foundation-stone of a new Masonic Hall. The St. Matthew's Lodge, No. 1447, of Free and Accepted Masons, has only been founded some twenty months, but so successful has been its short career, that it was found absolutely necessary to provide a Hall in which the brethren could meet with comfort and convenience. Accordingly, measures were adopted, which resulted in the brethren securing a piece of land on the Brigg-road, and the work of construction was entrusted to Mr. Stamp, of Barton, in accordance with plans designed by Bro. W. H. Wellsted, architect, of Hull. The new building will be of modern classic style of architecture, having a frontage of 25 feet, and a depth of 44 feet. It will be executed in white stock brick with red brick pillars, arches, &c. On the ground floor will be the library and banquet-room, 24ft. 3in. by 32ft. 9in., and a Tyler's residence, with spacious kitchens, fitted with suitable cooking apparatus. On the first floor will be the Lodge-room, of the same dimensions as the library, and adjoining it will be the waiting and robing-rooms, and all the other necessary offices. The weather on Wednesday was all that could be desired, and a large number of officers and brethren from distant Lodges embraced the invitation to be present at the ceremony. Shortly before two o'clock the Lodge was opened in the 1st degree, at the temporary Lodge-room in the Odd Fellows' Hall, W.M. Bro. W. Swallow presiding. There were also present, Bro. Major W. H. Smyth, Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Lincolnshire; Bro. the Rev. Dr. Ace, P.G. Chaplain of Lincolnshire; Bro. M. C. Peck, Grand Secretary of N. and E. Yorks., the Worshipful Masters of several Lodges in both provinces, and many Grand and Past Officers. The following Lodges were represented:—Isle of Asholme, 1482; the Ancholme, 1282; the Yarborough, 442; the Pelham Pillar, 792; the Lindsey, 712; the Alexandra, 1511; the Humber, 57; the Minerva, 250; the Kingston, 1010; the Bayons, 1286; the St. Albans, 1294; the Constitutional, 294. At the time appointed the brethren left the Odd Fellows' Hall in procession, and walked in prescribed order to the site of the new structure, the novelty of so many

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brethren in full Masonic attire attracting considerable attention. On their arrival at the site the brethren filed to the right and left, and faced inwards, the W.D.P.G.M. of Lincolnshire and other officers of rank passing into the centre of the square formed round the stone. The service, as arranged, was then proceeded with. The architect having handed the plans to the D.P.G.M., Bro. Smyth expressed his approval of them, and informed the architect that, having inspected the drawings, he was able to compliment Bro. Wellsted upon the skill and care he had evidently bestowed upon them. He felt sure that under his supervision such a structure would be raised as would answer in every respect the purposes for which it had been designed. The secretary then read a copy of the document which, together with some coins and a copy of the *Hull and Lincolnshire Times*, had been placed in a phial and secured in the cavity of the stone; and the due preparations having been made, the stone was lowered to its place and duly proved by the W.D.P.G.M. with square, level, and plumb rule. The silver trowel used in the ceremony was beautifully engraved, and on the blade was the following inscription:—"Presented to Bro. W. H. Smyth, W.D.P.G.M. of Lincolnshire, on the occasion of laying the foundation-stone of the new Masonic Hall at Barton-on-Humber. 19th May 1875." The Chaplain having offered prayer, the cornucopia and various elements were severally handed to the W.D.P.G.M., who completed the ceremony according to ancient usage. Before returning to the Lodge room,

Bro. W. H. Smyth W.D.P.G.M. addressing the assembly said:—It is always customary, at this stage of the proceedings, to make a short address to the brethren, but, on this occasion, I shall so far deviate from the ordinary custom as to address myself to the ladies and the other visitors who are not Masons, who have honoured us with their presence to-day. They may have come here to see a sight, as they would go to see a play, and to criticise the actors. But we, as Masons, know perfectly well that everything we do here has a deeper significance. Every letter and character of our proceedings, every legend we have in our Lodge lectures, every emblem which you have seen used to-day, has a significance of deeper import, and reminds us of certain things which are here unseen. What is Freemasonry? and who are Masons? I would answer, with regard to the second question, Freemasons are a band of men bound together by a bond of unity to make each other happier, better and wiser than they could otherwise be. (Hear, hear.) And what is Freemasonry? The neophyte is told it is a peculiar system of morality, veiled in allegory, and illustrated by symbols; but this I consider most cold and uninviting. I am not satisfied with it. Certainly it is a peculiar system of morality, but it is more than that, it is deeper than any system of morality; it is a handmaid, an assistant to religion. (Applause.) A really good Mason cannot carry out the principles inculcated within his Lodge without being a better man than he would have been otherwise. (Hear, hear.) It is "veiled in allegory." We all know what an allegory is, and, as I have already told you, we have, in our ceremonies, many stories and legends, told by way of allegory. We are not bound to accept them all as facts, but each has a meaning, to teach us some great truth; and, I believe, really do so. (Applause.) It is "illustrated by symbols." You have had, on this occasion, a number of symbols brought before you; so many, indeed, that time will not permit of our going through them all, or to explain their meanings. In the first place, there is the symbol of the lewis—a little implement by which the stone is lowered down into its place. It consists of three pieces of metal, and the two pieces could not perform the service required without the piece placed inside, which renders the whole perfect. That represents that a son ought to assist his parents in their old age. The stone itself was not dug out of the quarry in the state you see it now; it was a rough, unpolished, massive stone that nobody could build with. This represents the mind of man in the savage state, before it has been converted and taught by education, and other means, to make itself useful to society. But the perfect ashlar, as you now see it, represents the man polished and educated, and fitted to take his place in society. (Applause.) The corn, wine, oil and salt, which you have seen placed on the stone, are emblems of abundance and prosperity, of cheerfulness and joy, of peace and love, of purity and perpetuity. I have now done. Before the procession returns to the Lodge and I close this meeting, I will ask my brethren to join with me, according to ancient custom, in the prayer to the Great Architect of the Universe, that their work thus begun in order might be concluded in peace and closed in harmony (So mote it be.) The National Anthem was then sung, and three cheers given, after which the brethren returned to the Lodge, and concluded the business. Subsequently a banquet was provided at the George Hotel, when over 100 brethren sat down under the presidency of the W.M. Bro. Swallow, and the customary Masonic toasts were honoured.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF FREEMASONS FOR BERKS AND BUCKS.

THE annual Grand Lodge of Freemasons for the province was held at Aylesbury, on Friday, 14th inst. The Lodge opened for business in the Corn Exchange, at half past one, under the presidency of the Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Master, Sir Daniel Gooch Bart., M.P., a good muster of the brethren from all parts of the Province being present. The accounts having been passed, the Provincial Grand Officers were duly appointed and invested, as follow:—Bros. W. W. Moxhay 414 S.G.W., R. Hayles 840 J.G.W., Rev. F. W. Harnett 840 Grand Chaplain, Rev. W. F. Campbell 574 A.G.C.H., Geo. Chancellor 1101 Grand Treasurer, W. Biggs 574 Grand Secretary, C. V. Childe 1101 Grand Registrar, J. Bunce 574 S.G.D., Tolley 771 J.G.D., Captain Brownrigg 1410 Supt. Works, Dixon 209 G.D.C., Ballard 945 A.D.C., J. T. Stransom 1101 G.S.B., T. Cook 948 G.O., S. G. Payne 591 G. Pur., C. Nowell Assistant ditto, S. Bradley 414 Grand Steward, Freeman 1101 ditto, George I. Cosburn 574 ditto, Bro. E. Baker 414 ditto, Ferguson 1101 ditto, C. W. Carter 771 ditto. The banquet afterwards took place at the George Hotel, and was attended by a numerous party of the brethren.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF OXFORDSHIRE.

THE Annual Provincial Grand Lodge of Oxfordshire was held on Tuesday last in the Apollo (University) Lodge Room, Oxford, under the auspices of the Bertie Lodge. Bro. Æneas J. McIntyre, the Grand Registrar of England, who is in charge of the Province, presided, and was supported by Bros. His Royal Highness Prince Leopold, R. J. Spiers, D.P.G.M., P.G.S.B., R. Havers, P.S.G.D., F. P. Morrell, J.G.D., many past and present officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge, &c., &c. The minutes of the last Annual Provincial Lodge and of the Lodge of Emergency having been read and adopted, Bro. Randall, the Provincial Grand Treasurer, read his report, which was a satisfactory one, and was carried.

The Charity Report was read and approved, £10 was voted to the Masonic Charities, and £10 to the Oxford Charities. A Charity Jewel was presented to Bro. F. P. Morrell, and a bar to Bro. Rev. H. Adams Pickard, and it was announced that jewels and bars were due to other members but had not yet been received.

Bro. R. J. Spiers resigned his office of Deputy Provincial Grand Master after a service of upwards of 20 years. A vote of thanks, proposed to him by Bro. the Rev. H. Adair Pickard, the W.M. of the Apollo (University) Lodge, and seconded by Bro. Walter Thompson, the W.M. of the Alfred (Oxford) Lodge, was carried with enthusiasm.

The acting Provincial Grand Master then invested his officers for the ensuing year, as follow:—

Bros. the Rev. Reginald Bird, Deputy Prov. Grand Master; Galpin Prov. Senior Grand Warden; H. R. Cooper Smith, Prov. Junior Grand Warden; Rev. R. W. Pope, Rev. A. Ayton, Prov. Grand Chaplains; T. Randall, Prov. Grand Treasurer; Williams, Prov. Grand Registrar; Sinclair Franklin Wood, Prov. Grand Secretary; W. H. Horn, Prov. Senior Grand Deacon; Jason Saunders, Prov. Junior Grand Deacon; C. Bishop, Prov. Grand Sup. of Works; Julius Sladden, C. J. S. Spalding, Prov. Grand Directors of Ceremonies; W. Eagleston, Prov. Grand Sword Bearer; Plumridge, Prov. Grand Organist; H. Williams, Prov. Grand Pursuivant; J. Jenkins, Prov. Assistant Grand Pursuivant; H.R.H. Prince Leopold, Gorden Campbell, C. G. Paget, Walter Peppercorn, J. E. C. Bodley, Prov. Grand Stewards; W. Stephens, Prov. Grand Tyler; G. Norwood, Prov. Assistant Grand Tyler.

Bro. F. P. Morrell proposed a resolution, of which he had given notice at a previous meeting, that the present Charity Committee, which consists of representatives of each Lodge with the addition of the Provincial Grand Wardens and the Provincial Grand Chaplains should be a committee for the purpose of carrying out the election of any candidate from this province to either of the Charities. This was seconded and carried unanimously. The members of the Provincial Grand Lodge and many other Masons afterwards dined in the Council Chamber, under the presidency of the Acting Provincial Grand Master. The dinner was an excellent one, and the wines very fine.

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Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. I.—No. 22. SATURDAY, 29th MAY 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G P.O. as a Newspaper.

THE 1717 THEORY.

THE discussion fraternally carried on among modern Freemasons as to the antiquity of our Ritual, seems narrowing to a point, and turns upon the sources whence the revivalists of 1717 derived the system they transmitted to us. Theorists suppose that many old stores were ransacked, besides that of the Society of Freemasons. If the documents which, it is recorded, were burned at the time by scrupulous brethren could be now forthcoming, the question might be of easy solution; but in their absence, fashionable scepticism finds scope for critical exactions, such as disturb the theologians of the day. Meantime tradition (no light weight) is on our side, and the assertion that our system is adoptive not ancestral, remains assertion only.

The crystallisation of Ritual into methodic degrees, supposing such was the work of James Anderson and Dr. Desaguliers, does not warrant the assumption that our Society was thereby severed from its foundation.

The existence of a speculative system among early Eastern Masonic Associations is historically proved, and traces of the immigration to this country of those artificers abound. At the meeting of the Society of Antiquaries, Feb. 10th 1814, was exhibited a drawing of two ancient wooden figures, which came from the old Manor House of Wooburn in Buckinghamshire. The figures, life size, represent two Masons, old and young, the former, bearing a Quadrant and Staff, the latter a Square and Compasses. The attire, head-dress, and even the features denote Asiatic originals; their date the period of the Crusades.*

Of the building secrets of the old Masons *disjecta membra* remain in our Ritual, which, we believe, to be of immemorial antiquity, and which may yet afford a clue to the canon of proportion of the ancients—embracing architecture, geometry, astronomy, maybe all the sciences. The roof of King's College Chapel, Cambridge, was constructed by a rule that may yet be re-discovered in our symbolism. It seems superfluous to remark in this connection that the Architects (or Engineers) of to-day are not the equals of the ancients in constructive power, and that without the wonderful facility of iron, their grandest works would make a sorry figure.

* We have consulted, among other works, Velthusen, Einfluss Juden, Chaldäer, u Hebräer in Begleitung Phönizischer Seefahrer, &c. (1804.)

THE RIGHT OF VISITATION.

MORE than once have we been asked to explain our views as to the reception of strangers in a Lodge. Only last week a correspondent in Australia submitted for our decision a case in which the rights of visitors were involved. Hence we have thought it better to treat the matter editorially at some length. At the outset the law seems precise enough. It is laid down, firstly, "that no visitor shall be admitted into a Lodge, unless he is personally known, recommended, or well vouched for, after due examination, by one of the present brethren; and during his continuance in the Lodge he must be subject to the bye-laws of the Lodge. The Master of the Lodge is bound to enforce these regulations." In the next place, "it is within the power of the Master, Wardens, and brethren of every private Lodge to refuse admission to any visitor of known bad character." And finally, "a brother, who is not a subscribing member to a Lodge, shall not be permitted to visit any Lodge in the town or place where he resides more than once during his secession from the Craft." There is nothing doubtful in these regulations. In the first place the Masonic character of the visitor must be proved. Then the authorities of a Lodge may exclude a visitor who is of known bad character, and, finally, if the visitor is not a subscribing member to any Lodge he can only exercise his right of visitation at any Lodge once during his secession. The terms, then, of the law are defined strictly, yet in practice there is a divergence of opinion as to its application. Some hold that every M.M. who is a subscribing member of a Lodge, duly constituted, can exercise his right without restriction, while others regard the exercise of the right with jealousy. The late Dr. Oliver, than whom we imagine no Masonic writer ever existed who takes a more liberal view of the rights and privileges of Masonry, devotes several pages in his *Masonic Jurisprudence* to the consideration of this question, and, like all liberal-minded men, he treats the matter in a broad commonsensible point of view. There is no one in fact whose *dicta* on this or any other subject are more worthy of our respect, and accordingly we do not hesitate to pin our faith to his most lucid exposition. We make this admission the more readily that we find our esteemed Brother Chalmers I. Paton proposes the same, or at all events, very similar views. Here then is what the late Bro. Oliver says. The laws, he points out, are stringent, but it is often found to be expedient to relax this stringency. A visitor must make clear his identity to the satisfaction of the Lodge he proposes to visit. He must show that he is a subscribing member of some regular Lodge. If not known, or recommended by any well-known brother, he must submit himself for examination by some experienced member, and having given satisfactory evidence of his Masonhood, he then becomes eligible for admission into the Lodge during the transaction of Masonic business. But clearly the right should be exercised with discretion, while the propriety of the restriction imposed by law is self evident. A Mason, for instance, who is not a subscribing member of any Lodge, yet claims to exercise this right of visitation, evades the most important of his Masonic duties. He will attend a Lodge without contributing to its expenses, and will be a burden to the brethren who compose it. Again, a Mason who happens unfortunately to be on unfriendly terms with any member of a Lodge should clearly not press his claim to admission, for in such case he would destroy that harmony which it is the aim of Masonry to establish. Certainly, if of two members of a Lodge, whose relations towards each other are unfriendly, it is desirable that one should avoid being present, it is still more important that a visitor whose unfriendliness towards some member is established, should forego his right of visitation. He makes no sacrifice by doing so, while, on the other hand, his insistence virtually deprives the member affected of his rights of membership. Again, no brother should press his claim to be present when the private business of the Lodge is under discussion. To do so were in the highest degree indelicate. The privacy of a Lodge should no more be invaded than the privacy of an individual. Our late Bro. Oliver mentions that at a Quarterly Communication held in 1819, a report from the Board of General Purposes was read, in which it was stated that a complaint had been submitted to them to the effect that certain brethren, though well known, had been refused admission to a certain Lodge in London, on the ground that a candidate was about to be initiated, and the Board laid it down that it was the inherent right of every Mason, who is known or vouched for, to visit any

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Lodge during the time it is open for the transaction of Masonic business, but "notwithstanding this resolution," writes Dr. Oliver, "there are Lodges which refuse admission to visitors when practising the ceremonies of any of the degrees, although such exclusion is undoubtedly illegal." The writer adds, "It was the declaration of a late Grand Master (when the subject was brought under his consideration) that a Mason's Lodge is a Mason's Church; and that no qualified brother could be legally refused admittance under any circumstances; this, then, is a landmark which ought to be reverenced." And Bro. Paton remarks, in his *Freemasonry and its Jurisprudence*, "Masonic Jurists have always decided that the right of visitation is absolute and positive, and inures to every Mason in his travels throughout the world. Wherever he may be, however distant from his residence, and in the land of the stranger, every Lodge is, to a Mason in good standing, his home, where he should be ever sure of the warmest and truest welcome." He further states, "In concluding this section, it may be remarked, by way of recapitulation, that the right of visit is a positive right, which inures to every unaffiliated Master Mason once, and to every affiliated Master Mason always; but that it is a right which can never be exercised without a previous examination and legal avouchment, and may be forfeited for good and sufficient cause; while, for the Master of any Lodge to deny it, without such cause, is to do a Masonic wrong to the Brother claiming it, for which he will have his redress upon complaint to the Grand Lodge within whose jurisdiction the injury is inflicted. This, it appears, is now the settled law upon the subject of the Masonic right of visit, while the exposition both by Oliver and Paton is sufficiently perspicuous. Nor will any of our readers, we imagine, doubt the wisdom of the restrictions imposed. And after all, no difficulty need ever occur if brethren will only exercise common sense and that kindly feeling which should animate all gentlemen in their dealings one with another. Visiting a Lodge is like visiting a house, and must be governed by the same unwritten code of laws. No gentleman is ever wittingly guilty of intrusion into company where his presence is undesired or undesirable. To claim a right on all occasions merely because it exists, is not gentlemanly, and therefore not Masonic. In order to be a Mason, a man must first be a gentleman, not in the mere conventional sense which is usually assigned to the word, but a gentleman in its widest and fullest significance. We feel convinced no W.M., with a sense of the proprieties, would close the doors of his Lodge against any strange brother who had established his character as a Mason, nor would a Mason, worthy of the name, seek to thrust himself into any Lodge where his presence would be obnoxious. The right to visit is a landmark of our Order. The restrictions on such right are only such as wisdom and policy must dictate. But in claiming or denying it, we must be governed, after all, by prudence and common sense. The cases in which a refusal is likely to be met are few and far between, but numerous or the reverse, they can only be determined by the proprieties of time, place, and circumstance.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE Annual General Communication of this Provincial Grand Lodge will be held at Boston, at 1 p.m. on the 10th prox., under the banner of the Harmony Lodge, No. 272, the R.W. Prov. G.M., the Duke of St. Albans, presiding. In the "agenda" paper it is announced that the roll of Lodges and Prov. Grand Officers will be called; that the minutes of the annual Prov. Grand Lodge, held at Grantham, on 28th May 1874, will be read and submitted for confirmation; that the P.G. Treasurer will read his financial statement; the P.G. Secretary will read the report of the Committee of the P.G. Lodge Fund of Benevolence, and an abstract of the accounts to the present time, and the P.G. Registrar elect will then read the returns for the past year from the several Lodges in the Province. W. Bro. W. H. Radley, P.M. 838, P.P.J.G.W. and Secretary to the Provincial Charity Committee, will then read the report for the past year, giving an account of the Society's efforts in connection with the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows, while W. Bro. Pigott, I.P.M. 1282, will furnish an account of the sums subscribed by the Province, and handed in by him, as Steward of the Annual Festival held in March last. Bro. Richard Hall, P.M. 297, P.P.S.G.W., will then submit the following resolution:—"That the Provincial Grand Lodge consider the desirability of forming an Annuity Fund for this Province, in accordance with the resolutions of the subscribers of the Oliver Memorial Fund." The Provincial Grand Lodge will then select a Charity for support during the year, and, having elected a Treasurer and two Auditors for the P.G. Lodge Fund, the R.W. Prov. G.M. will invest the P.G. Officers for the ensuing year, and the proceedings will terminate.

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF BRITISH BURMAH.

THE Regular Communication of this District Grand Lodge was held on 29th December of last year, at the Masonic Temple, Cantonment, Rangoon. There were present—R.W. Bro. Lieut.-Col. H. T. Duncan D.G.M., W. Bros. C. J. Brown D D.G.M., A. M. Buchanan D.S.G.W., Jos. Dawson P.D S.G.W. acting as D.J.G.W., J. V. Douglas de Wet D.G. Secretary, H. Krauss P.D.S.G.W. as D.S.G.D., W. H. Porter as D.J.G.D., and Bros. J. B. Richardson D.G. Pursuivant, M. Appavoo Pillay D.G. Steward, and Sergt. W. Smith D.G. Tyler; together with the following representatives of Lodges:—Bros. J. Worth S.W. as W.M., J. Andrews J. W. as S.W., and G. Greenhill S.D. as J.W., Lodge "Star of Burmah," No. 614; W. Bro. B. Samuel W.M., Lodge "Victoria in Burmah," No. 832; W. Bro. J. Aikman J.W. as W.M., Lodge "Rangoon," No. 1268, and W. Bro. D. Morrison W.M., Lodge "Astræa," No. 1376. The District Grand Lodge was opened in due form, at 6.35 p.m., and the receipt of apologies for non-attendance by sundry brethren were reported. The minutes of the previous Communication were confirmed. From the report of the Board of General Purposes it appeared that in respect of the District Grand Lodge Fund there was a small balance in hand on the 4th December; while, as regards the District Grand Lodge Benevolent Fund, the total receipts amounted to Rs. 857, the only disbursement being a sum of Rs. 100, transferred to the D.G.L. Fund. Then was read the report of the Committee appointed to take into consideration any alterations that it might be advisable to make in the bye-laws. This was ordered to be printed and circulated, and was adopted, subject to confirmation at the next regular Communication. The D.G.M. in his address congratulated the brethren on the eminently satisfactory condition of the Craft in his Province, the seven Lodges numbering 187 subscribing members. He also referred to the resignation of the Past M.W.G.M., the Marquis of Ripon, and the flourishing state of the Masonic Orphan Fund, after which he proceeded to nominate the following as his officers for the ensuing year, namely—W. Bro. H. Krauss, P.M. 1268, as D.D G.M.; E. Hopper, P.M. 614, as D.S.G.W.; J. V. Douglas de Wet, W.M. 614, as D.J.G.W.; Rev. A. H. Etty, No. 1268, D.G. Chaplain; D. G. Macleod, P.M. 832, D.G. Registrar; W. D. Cruickshank, P.M. 1268, D. G. Treasurer; B. Samuel, W.M. 832, D.G. Secretary; F. Limouzin, P.M. 542, D.G.S.D.; E. G. Man, P.M. 1268, D.G.J.D.; Mountjoy, W.M. 646, D.G. Supt. of Works; Richardson, W.M. Elect 832, D.G. Director of Ceremonies; H. Barkhausen, 1268, D.G. Org.; Alex. Hotson, W.M. 1268, D.G. Sword Bearer; Knox, W M. 1065, D.G. Pursuivant. The appointment of the D.G. Tyler was left over till the next Communication. The following were elected members of the Board of General Purposes, viz., W. Bros. H. Krauss (Pres.), C. J. Brown, E. Hopper, J. V. Douglas de Wet, A. M. Buchanan, Jos. Dawson, W. D. Cruickshank, and B. Samuel. Bros. Bedford, Greenhill, Seymour, Aikman, Burns and H. Bowser were appointed to act as Stewards for the ensuing year. The Rev. Bro. Etty having asked and obtained permission to send his address on St. John's Day to the *Masonic Magazine* in Calcutta for publication, and D.G.M. having proposed to take 100 copies of the same, the District Grand Lodge was closed in due form.

CLUB HOUSE PLAYING CARDS.—Mogul Quality, picked 1s 3d per pack, 14s per dozen packs. Do. seconds 1s per pack, 11s per dozen packs. If by post 1½d per pack extra. Cards for Piquet, Bésique, Ecarté, &c., Mogul Quality 10d per pack, 9s per dozen packs.—London: W. W. Morgan, 67 Barbican, E.C.

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THE HISTORY OF A CHEQUE.

WE confess that we dunned Jones for our little outstanding account until we were almost ashamed of ourself. Jones is such a good fellow, and is generally ready to meet his engagements; but, in this instance, he did not display any remarkable readiness to part with his cash. The other evening, however, he surprised us with a cheque, payable to order. It was drawn upon a small banker, who hangs out up one pair of stairs in a gloomy part of the City. Having no banking account of our own, we trotted off next day to the little millionaire, for the purpose of turning our invaluable piece of paper into the genuine article. We were not much astonished to find a bank in a one pair back room. We know men of the banker persuasion who carry on business in apartments much nearer heaven than that, and so we climbed the stairs with no misgivings as to the ultimate result of our visit. We knew Jones was solvent, and felt fully assured that the guardian of his cash could honour any reasonable demand. Full of these ideas, we entered a small stuffy room, and presented our magic paper to the only clerk visible. He was a young fellow, and the expressive pantomime he exhibited during the transaction of the business which brought us into his grave presence indicated that he possessed a decided natural talent for the stage. No theatrical attorney or money lender, scrutinising a doubtful bill, could have done the business better. He took the cheque from us fearfully, with the air of a man who secretly dreaded that we had come to chaw up the concern. Finding, however, that the amount was but a modest "fiver," he showed evident signs of relief, and at once proceeded to as minute an examination of the document as a bibliomaniac might bestow upon a reputed autograph of Shakspeare. He turned the unfortunate piece of paper in various directions; held it from him at arm's length, and took a bird's eye view of it. Then he laid it on the desk, and, no doubt, mentally considered how it would look mounted and framed in a neat gilt moulding. His verdict was evidently adverse to it as a work of art, and, apparently, to gain further time, he read it through from beginning to end, including the printed address of the firm, and the beautifully embossed inscription on the penny stamp. He then bethought him of the endorsement, and looked to see that that was all right, casting an inquiring glance at us, at the same time, as if questioning whether the dashing signature was really ours. Being still dissatisfied with the draft, both as a work of art, and as an order upon the unlimited cash in the coffers of the concern, he turned to the safe and produced an indexed book of signatures. This curiosity of banking then ran his finger, in a leisurely manner, as if time was no object, down the letters until he reached "J," and having unearthed the name he was seeking, he proceeded, with the air of an expert, to compare the writing on the draft with the original scrawl of the immortal Jones. While this solemn pantomime was proceeding we suffered a variety of sensations too acute and painful to be described. Did the fellow think we had forged the wretched cheque? Was he doubtful about Jones's balance, or was he merely scheming to gain time while the small boy we had seen on the landing outside was running for the police? Feeling much annoyed at our unpleasant position, and thinking that a little comic business would improve the performance, we ventured upon some mild banter. How often in the course of the year did they cash cheques for such a large amount? Would it be necessary to draw upon the reserve in the Bank of England, and would the draft tell seriously upon the "drain of gold?" This had the desired effect, for the grave pantomimist slowly put his hand into his pocket. "By Jove," thought we, "there is no money in the blessed concern, and this poor fellow is going to advance the amount out of his own slender means!" But, instead of pulling out his purse, our silent cash clerk produced a small key, and, with the solemnity which the Constable of the Tower might affect when about to unlock the cage which guards the Crown Jewels, he proceeded to open a small drawer. From this mystic receptacle he produced, with evident reluctance, five sovereigns, and by way of keeping up the fiction of a bank, and the sacred traditions of all cash clerks, he cautiously pushed this vast sum towards us with a shovel big enough to hold a thousand pounds. We pocketed the money with a deep sigh of relief, and bolted, remarking at the same time that a cheque after all appeared to be very unsatisfactory "raw material" to take in exchange for the "drain of gold." We did not feel fully assured that the small boy was not at our heels until we had placed two or three streets between us and the bank, and we are not quite sure even now that the grave cash clerk will not repent his indiscretion and raise the hue and cry against us. Five pounds is a serious sum, and perhaps on the whole we are not so much in need of this amount as the banker. We confess we have had serious thoughts at times of banking the surplus of our small income. The idea of "coming the Old Soldier" over our tradesmen with a brand new cheque book, and the issuing of a draft to order with the air of a man who has thousands in reserve, has had its fascinations for us. Our recent experience, however, has convinced us that the cracked tea-pot and the stocking have decided advantages of their own, and if Jones again favours us with his revered autograph we shall think twice before we venture to place ourself in a position akin to that of a pauper begging for relief from a stern guardian of the poor. If there should ever be a run upon Jones's banker, that quiet cash clerk will prove invaluable. If he found it convenient to expend ten minutes in the payment of a cheque for five pounds, we wonder how long it would take him to cash a draft for a thousand? The problem is a simple rule of three sum, and, perhaps, some of our lads in the Masonic School may amuse themselves by attempting its solution. We may add, in conclusion, that the profundities of banking have always inspired us with a certain degree of awe, but it is evident that there are depths, and, having regard to the before-mentioned stairs, heights, in the system, which have yet to be explored by the inexperienced *litterateur*. Our recent experience has convinced us that five pounds is after all no mean sum. When one reflects that one may frighten a cash clerk, and risk the stoppage of a flourishing concern by a simple demand for that amount, one should carry away a lesson worth learning. Like most scribblers, we have not hitherto thought much of this vast sum, but, in future, we shall bear its value in mind; and the next time we read the *Times'* money article we shall not be surprised to learn that a flourishing banker has failed with assets of three-farthings, and liabilities to the enormous amount of £2 16s 8d.

MASONIC DRONES.

(From the *Masonic Advocate*.)

IF there is one thing more than another that we especially dislike it is a drone, whether in the beehive, the Masonic Lodge, or the world at large, it is all the same—a worthless, lazy, indolent life—living on the labour of others. That there are many such in every phase of human life is evident to the most casual observer, and hence it is not surprising that more or less of them find their way into our Masonic Lodges. That they are the bane of the institution of Freemasonry is evident to every one who has ever held a supervising position in an official capacity in the Order, and how to make them available is the problem that many have attempted to solve, but the result has been generally far from satisfactory. They still exist with their blighting influence; the vitality of Masonry is sapped to its very roots by their connection with it, and it withers in the noontide of its prosperity, as the plant in sandy soil withers beneath the scorching rays of a meridian sun. It is almost a wonder how such drones ever became Masons, for their petition must have come as their own voluntary act, and they have never been known to do anything voluntarily in a Masonic way since. They pay their dues, when compelled to do so, to preserve their Masonic standing, and attend their Lodge in obedience to a summons for the same reason. If asked to perform any Masonic duty, such as sitting up with a sick brother, providing for those who are destitute, or relieving those who are in distress, they have important business which must be attended to—they are very sorry that it has happened so—but they must be excused this time. They never perform any such service while there is any possible way to avoid it, but they are the first to ask it for themselves in the hour of need, or when they can be benefitted by it, and if it is not promptly rendered to their entire satisfaction, Masonry is declared to be a humbug, and Masonic obligations the merest pretence. The beautiful lessons of brotherly love and charity inculcated so impressively in the several degrees they have taken, have fallen like good seed upon stony ground, and hence bringeth forth no fruit. Now it is evident that there must be some defect, something wrong, or this condition of affairs could not exist, and to endeavour to discover the cause and apply the remedy should be the aim of all who desire to increase the usefulness and promote the prosperity of Masonry. There are undoubtedly many reasons which will present themselves to the thoughtful Mason, but chief among them, we apprehend, is the fact that a great many men have erroneous ideas in regard to the institution before they become members of it, and not finding it just what they had supposed it to be, in their disappointment they lose all interest in it and become simply nominal Masons. They had imagined that Masonry was a highway to distinction, honours, riches and power, but found instead that it laid upon them new cares, labours and responsibilities, which they were unwilling to assume. Instead of a desire of being serviceable to their fellow creatures, it turns out that their desire is to make the whole fraternity of service to themselves, and if this cannot be done they have no further use for Masonry.

Another class have become drones because they have never learned enough of Masonry to become interested in it, or they do not agree with the majority in the management of the Lodge, or they have had a personal difficulty with some brother, or some members do not live up to their idea of morality, and they do not wish to associate with such profligate fellows. Instead of doing their own plain duty in such cases, they shirk the responsibility, and attempt to throw all the blame on others. The great trouble in this whole matter is, these men have none of the spirit of Masonry in them, and ought never to have been admitted into the Lodge. Let our brothers then profit by their past experience, and more carefully examine into the character and qualifications of those who may seek admission into our Order. Let it not be sufficient that there is nothing against the moral character of the applicant, but see to it that he possesses positive qualities, and the capacity to understand and appreciate what will be required of him as a Mason. Make less members and more Masons, and there will be fewer drones in our Lodges.

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REVIEWS.

All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, 67 Barbican, E.C.

A Sketch of the History of the Antient and Primitive Rite of Masonry, in France, America and Great Britain, with Charters and other documents. London: John Hogg, 15A Paternoster Row.

We are very pleased to have received this little pamphlet. It is one of the happiest illustrations we have seen for a long time of the familiar phrase *Multum in Parvo*. There is far more in these fifty and odd pages than would strike the eye of the casual reader. This sketch of the History of the Antient and Primitive Rite of Masonry is, in some respects, an ambitious one. There is a delightful insouciance about the claims to antiquity, which the pamphleteer advances, nor is he very much less happy in his description of the tenets which the antient and primitive Masons accept. The antiquity, comparatively speaking, is modern. It extends not further back than four or five centuries. Part I. begins by informing us that "Hermetic Philosophy, or the Science derived from the Egyptian Hermes"—Hermes, by the way, was a Greek, not an Egyptian, but as there was a Thebes in Egypt, so was there a Thebes in Greece, and the confusion, therefore, is pardonable—"is of considerable antiquity in Europe, having been brought into this division of the globe by the Spanish Arabs and the Crusading Knights, who had been in the East." Why not have said the Arabian Nights, and the picture would have been more complete. There is a close alliance between fiction and piction—there ought to be such a word—for the authors of both give a free rein to the imagination. Be this as it may, we announce with pleasure that, to quote our pamphleteer, "As Rosicrucianism, or the brotherhood of the Rosy Cross, it claimed to date from about the year A.D. 1400"—the accuracy of the date is remarkable—and was prominently known in the seventeenth century in various parts," the clearest exposition of an historical fact we have yet read—"at the close of which period various leading English Freemasons were adepts in the Hermetic Science. One of the very earliest of the higher degrees practised in London was named the knighthood of the Rosy Cross, and in 1743 claimed immemorial date there, and as Rosicrucianism the Masonic system attracted the attention of the press from the year A.D. 1723, at which time it was asserted that some of the Freemasons so closely resembled the Society of the Rosy Cross, from which they derived their principles, that it was difficult to distinguish between the two." There is a sublime mystery about the meaning of all this which cannot be sufficiently admired, but this of course is in keeping with the principles of Hermetic Science. Why be aught else than mysterious where a mystery is involved? The authority for the above statement is Frater John Yarker, jun.'s *Speculative Freemasonry*, a work we had the pleasure of reviewing not long since. But to pass onward in our notice of the "Antient and Primitive Rite." We are told further that "It is asserted by Bro. Ragon that at an early date (1721), Emanuel Swedenborg established a Theosophic rite of 'Elected Cohens or Priests' at Stockholm, consisting of seven degrees, the last being Kadosh Templar, or Holy Man. The first Temple includes 1-4°,"—which, for this region, is a remarkably low temperature—"and ceremonially represents man's creation, disobedience, punishment, and pain of body and spirit; the second temple teaches how man by a new holy and exemplary life is restored to his primitive dignity." It is further recorded, *inter alia*, that "in 1758 a dancing master of the name of Lacorne (whose appointment by Philip (*sic*) of Orleans the Craft repudiated) collected out of the degrees then known, for the purpose of giving magnificent titles, a rite of 25°, called the 'Empire of the East and West,' and which was subsequently amplified to 33°, as the 'Antient and Accepted Scottish Rite,' by a charter forged at Charleston in 1802." It is in the order of things, no doubt, that a dancing master should invent a rite comprising a certain number of grades or steps, and occasionally we hear of people who forge charters as well as signatures. But usually the invention of a dancing master, and the forgery of a charter, are not regarded in the light of very urgent recommendations. Proceed we further, however:—"In 1767, from the Baron Hunde's rite sprung the 'Roman Catholic rite'—we commend this fact especially to the notice of his Holiness the Pope—'of Clerks of Relaxed Observance;' and this produced the 'High Observance' devoted to hermetic magic, alchemy, &c., as also the 'Exact Observance.'" We are further invited to notice that "all these rites (of which there were about 70, reproducing each other with like principles) were collected and arranged by private individuals, *and are therefore of equal force, validity, and authenticity*; and that they all aim at the same goal—a search for truth." We feel bound to acknowledge that when we reached this point we were a little overcome by the audacity of the pamphleteer, but we quickly recovered, and read, with most exemplary complaisance, the announcement that "several brethren, including J. Et. Marconis, de Nigre, of eminence in the literary world, and in the various independent rites then practised," recognised the degrees under the forged Charleston charter of 1802, and having revised them "placed therein a number of degrees embodying and explaining the religious dogmas of the antient Hierophants, and styled the newly organised rite the 'Antient and Primitive Rite of Memphis,' embodying 95° of instruction, divided into *three series*, and sub-divided into *seven classes* of Masons, adding five councils, which, together, form the government of the Order. The seven classes formed originally seven organisations, under the denomination of Lodge, College, Chapter, Areopagus, Senate, Consistory and Council. The mysteries of antiquity had been anciently sub-divided."

We next come to the more important question, the elucidation of these mysteries. They were "not only a theoretical and practical course of moral philosophy and religion, but, moreover, an institution destined to perpetuate the first traditions of mankind; their special object was the re-habilitation and re-integration of intellectual man in his primitive rights. This opinion has been adopted by such profound men as Fabre d'Olivet, Ballanche, &c.; and we read in a work of the celebrated author of the '*Parolis d'un Croyant*,' this remarkable passage:—'We are composed of two parts, the animal and the angel, and our work is to combat the one, that the other may have sole dominion, until the moment when disengaged of its heavy envelope it takes its flight to the better and higher regions.'

"Whilst the vulgar Mason is satisfied with a mysterious appearance, and contented with knowing how to pronounce certain words, of which he is ignorant of the sense, and of giving inexactly certain signs, the philosophical observer and enquirer shoots into past ages, and ascends to remote first causes, and to the real basis of our institutions. If some success has crowned his feeble researches, if his lamp of study has been able to guide his steps in the obscure labyrinth of the antient mysteries, eager for further instruction, he will knock at the door of our temples, which occupy themselves seriously with the mystic and transcendant part of Masonry. Here it is that he will obtain new knowledge."

A worthier scheme was never fashioned. The idea of reintegrating intellectual man in his primitive rights is simply superb, while the necessity for casting aside the animal portion of our being at the earliest occasion, so that we may become angels, must be apparent to every one. We confess to feeling a little sore at the expression "Vulgar Masons." We attach no special meaning to this any more than to any other expression in this pamphlet, but as Mr. Weller sententiously remarked on a memorable occasion in the history of his son, "I am afeerd that werges on the poetical, Sammy." The notion that a "Vulgar Mason" exists, if not unpoetical, is certainly unmasonic.

We will not dwell further on this interesting pamphlet. We fully recognise the propriety of "the *First Series* of the Rite," which "gives the explanation of the symbols, emblems, and allegories disposing the adept to philanthrophy (*sic*), and shewing that need of assistance which nature has wisely willed that we should have to one another; the necessity of binding, of living together, of living and of never hurting one another; which principle is the base of society, and the duty of men amongst themselves." We are aware "*the Second Series* teaches the natural sciences, philosophy, and history, and the most universal Masonic Rites." We quite believe "the *Third Series* makes known the complement of the historic part of philosophy, which includes the mortal element belonging to the human mind; studying the religious myth of the different ages of humanity, and all those parts of science which are named occult or secret, it developes the mystic and transcendant part of Masonry, forming a composition of esotericism and high mysteries, and admitting the most advanced theosophic studies." We should not hesitate, indeed, to make even more important admissions, were the necessities of the case more urgent. But the profundity of this writer is equal to the task he has assigned himself. His writing is certainly brilliant, if occasionally obscure, and a little more care might have been taken over the proofs, whereby errors in spelling and grammar would have been avoided. These, however, are cases which affect only vulgar Masons; a theosophic antient and accepted rite brother is above such petty mundane nuisances. We close this notice with the complimentary remark that a more profound mystery was never dreamt of than in the philosophy of this pamphleteer.

The Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. Illustrations of the Emblems of the Thirty-three Degrees; with a short description of each as worked under the Supreme Council of Scotland. By Bro. J. T. Loth, Ph. Dr. 30°, Representative of the Grand Orient de France at the Grand Lodge of Scotland; P.M. Lodge St. Andrew, No. 48; P.H. Royal Arch Chapter St. Andrew, No. 83, Edinburgh; K.C. Royal Order of Scotland; Knight Templar, &c. Edinburgh and Glasgow, Menzies and Co.; London, Simpkin Marshall and Co. 1875.

We very heartily congratulate Bro. Dr. Loth on the admirable volume of illustrations which he has just produced. Clearly, both in taste and execution, Dr. Loth is an artist of great eminence, and in heraldic drawing and design, we imagine, can have few equals. Each of the thirty-three degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite is appropriately illustrated, the emblems peculiar to each degree being carefully described, while attached to each is a brief note explaining its nature and object. We know of no work more suitable for presentation to a friend, or the Lodge.

The Canadian Masonic News, edited by the Rev. E. M. Myers, P.M., P.J., P.P.G.C., R.S., enters on its career with every prospect of success. Among its contents are an able essay on the subject of "Freemasonry Misunderstood," an amusing poem entitled "She would be a Mason," and an obituary notice of our late Bro. W. M. Wilson, G.M. of the G.L. of Canada, who died in January of this year. It is announced in the opening address that the *News* will run, for a certainty, during one year, the needful provision having been made for all expenses during that time, but we trust that its existence may extend over a far longer period, and that our Canadian brethren may long have so able a journal to advocate the interests of our Order.

The New England Freemason, of which we have received vol. 1, and the January, February, and March numbers of vol. 2, is an excellent publication. We gave a summary, in one of our issues, of an article on "Old London Taverns Identified with Masonry," and the subject is continued in the February number. This may be taken as a very fair specimen of the general contents, while the manner in which the journal is "got up," as regards type, paper, &c., leaves nothing to be desired.

Advantages of Gas for Cooking and Heating, by Magnus Ohren, A.I.C.E., F.C.S., prepared for gas companies for distribution among gas consumers, is a lucidly written pamphlet. Bro. Ohren states his views, about the propriety of which there can be no second opinion, very emphatically. The testimony he adduces is most respectable, and the sketches he provides of the various questions cannot fail to be of interest to every householder.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

All Letters must bear the name and address of the Writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.

—oOo—

OUR FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

10 Guilford Place, W.C.
24th May 1875.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I formerly held the 1717 theory, like many others, and marvelled at the credulity of worthy brethren who clung to belief in the antiquity of our Masonic system. I held the Masons who formerly constructed our ecclesiastical edifices, to have been simply artisans "free of a guild," ignorant of aught beyond the rules which guided their operative skill. I was, nevertheless, puzzled by the occurrence of the title "Freemason" on old building contracts, and saw reason to doubt its application to all stonemasons, or to ordinary masons. Since then, I have become familiarised with the detail of our ceremonies and lectures, with divergent and discarded Rituals, and with works on the subject not generally accessible.

I now believe our Freemasonry to be of "immemorial antiquity," and am not sorry to find your article of 15th May (upon Lord Carnarvon's Speech) coincide, in the main, with my conclusions.

Propounders of the 1717 theory make, as you say, no allowance *for the nature of a secret society, to which the tests of other history are inapplicable.* They require documentary records in continuous procession back from 1717; and this requirement, *the nature of a secret society* renders it impossible to satisfy and illogical to exact.

The statement that Desaguliers and his compeers manufactured our Freemasonry from old Pagan ideas with other things which did not pertain to the system as they found it, is not capable of proof. The decadence of the operative fraternity may have brought the secret system into a chaotic state which they may have systematised; they may be responsible for the division of the three degrees; they may also (it is more likely) have followed a traditionary practice. There existed a *master's part* under the operatives in *England*, at all events, and there is reason to believe that the ceremony of *choosing a mark* intervened before the apprentice was entrusted with the secret of the *master's part*. The latter was not committed to writing, and cannot be proved to have differed essentially from what it was in 1740, a MS. ritual of which date is in my possession. Your correspondent, Bro. Bachan, brings the records of Lodges in Scotland to show that our system was there unknown. Such evidence is negative in a double sense. The esoteric system could not be committed to writing, but notwithstanding the decayed condition of the art, consequent upon civil broils, the enrolment of purely speculative members was very usual, as that able investigator Bro. Hughan has demonstrated. Could records of 200 years earlier date be found, plainer because cruder indications of the nobler speculative science would, I believe, be brought to light. Though the old Masonic box mentioned by your correspondent may betray ignorance of our Freemasonry, there are many antiquities which show acquaintance with it, though not necessarily with the exact sequence of the ceremonial of our three degrees.

I request permission to quote, for the benefit of your readers, from a preamble of the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford in a cotemporary: "Our present Freemasonry is the legitimate successor of the operative guild assemblies and sodalities of the mediæval and earlier Freemasons. We have inherited the legends and constitutions of those ancient and handiwork Craftsmen. That these sodalities existed in this country until the decadence in the 17th century in full vigour, is susceptible of much and varied proof. That we can also trace them through many generations to the Roman sodalities, thence to Jewish and Tyrian Masons, is not altogether incapable of substantiation. There is a great amount of *circumstantial* evidence and much more inferential evidence."

Amongst *circumstantial* evidence I regard the two columns as a peculiar evidence of the speculative system of the mediæval architect. Yours fraternally, WALTER SPENCER.

P.S.—It may not be inopportune to quote here from another old Ritual in my possession, which was printed from a copper plate at some time during the first half of the eighteenth century. It is called "The Mystery of Freemasons, taken from a MS. found among the papers of a deceased Brother." It is evidently a relic of the operatives and *bonâ fide*, as the following will show:—"Q. Have you been in the kitchen? N.B. You shall know an entered apprentice by this question."

* * * * * * * * * * * *

"Note.—There is not one Mason in a Hundred that will be at the expense to pass the Master's part, except it be for interest."

* * * * * * * * * * * *

"Q. How was the Master cloathed?

"A. In a yellow jacket and a blue pair of breeches.

"N.B.—The Master is not otherwise clothed than common, the question and answer are only emblematical, the yellow jacket—the compasses, and the blue breeches—the steel points."

It is noteworthy that in this Ritual the Holy Bible has no place as a prominent symbol, only as a test for the obligation, but the two columns, the working tools, &c., are very particularly specified.

W. S.

A MASONIC LAUREATE.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—A laureate minstrel has at last appeared among the Craft. The new poet's advent and first utterances have been duly chronicled in your contemporary, the *Freemason*, but I regret to observe that, beyond the bare record, he has not a word to say in recognition of this eventful epoch in the history of our Order. Whether this reticence proceeds from indifference or from awe, I think it highly objectionable, and, with your permission, I propose to rescue our new poet from unmerited oblivion. I admit that at the outset of my enterprise I am confronted with a difficulty that would deter most people from attempting it at all—ignorance of the poet's name. But, I reflect, nothing great, nothing worthy, was ever accomplished, if initial obstacles were allowed to stand in the way, and here, if I cannot immortalize a hero, I can at least crown his achievements. The place and the occasion were alike worthy of the event when this true son of Apollo descended among men. It was in Fleet Street, at Anderton's Hotel, he waked his infant lyre, and the occasion was the health of the Past Masters.

Then, when brothers gazed at each other with sympathetic horror of those oft-repeated reminiscences of past struggles and past workings, of which the orator's present efforts to speak furnish painful illustrations, there arose from among the P.M.'s "One of them," and from that moment Fleet Street knew it had a poet, Masonry owned its laureate, and Fancy recognised her legitimate child. The Ode of "One of them" evinces, by its originality, its vivid picturing, and its occasional plaintiveness, that a naturally poetic mind has given vent in it to the feelings of the heart. The opening is marked by a joyous humour that shows the poet possesses a spirit light by nature. The ring of true humour is in the lines

> "When we're now all assembled together,
> Without any thought of the rain or the weather.
> * * * * *
> Sipping our wine in an affectionate way,
> Chattering over the affairs of the day."

But it is in affectionate badinage that our Laureate's humour appears to greatest advantage. His references to "Dear Billy Wren," and the time ere yet "Billy" had ceased to be:

> "——— Pleased, without much persuasion,
> To give us a treat on many occasion,
> And then in most generous manner,
> Out with his notes, and so stop our clamour."

And his description of the domestic life of that honoured subject of his muse, who

> "——— When not inclined for a roam
> Out-of-doors, he sat quietly at home
> Making a noise,"

"till he made his throat smart," are specimens of spontaneous humour the world will not willingly let die.

If they remind any one of Mr. Close, it is because the instruments of both are pitched to the same note. I cannot believe there was any intention to imitate him.

My admiration of the poet's humour must not, however, blind me to his higher qualities. The former is digression after all, and, like an unbroken colt, is somewhat fitful in its capers. But when our Laureate has to deal with the central subject of his verse—the Past-Masters—he is inspired by the greatness of the theme, and soars at his highest. No description of these "thoughts that burn" can convey an idea of the poet's expression, therefore let me quote them.

> I suppose I must return thanks for not only myself,
> But for the rest of the lumber that's placed on the shelf,
> As the chirping Cock Robin has thought proper to name
> The Masters, when their year is over and they are crowned by fame.
> This day we have another P.M. to add to our number—
> Brother Joe Morton, a noble specimen of very fine lumber,
> To assist the new Master who will near him sit under.
> We're all ready when wanted to be taken down and dusted,
> And prove to the Brethren we are not at all rusted
> By being laid up thus so quietly out of the way,
> But ready to help should the Master go a little astray;
> For we're ever at hand, with our knowledge and aid,
> At all times when needful or application be made.
> I will now conclude the few words I have to say
> By wishing you all many happy returns of the day
> Of these happy meetings, where we ever desire
> To join you in the toasts and the Victoria fire,
> For many years to come, and have pleasure to find
> Your reception of us will be always as kind
> As it has hitherto been for many years past,
> And which I trust will continue so to the last.
> The other Past Masters a few words have to say,
> To thank you all for your good wishes to-day—
> Robbins, Wrenn, Roberts, Morton, Latrielle and George Snow
> Are first-rate Past Masters, as all of you know,
> And whom you are always delighted to see
> When at Lodge they make it convenient to be.
> For myself I will say no more than wish you good night,
> Hope you'll get home early, and not put your wives in a fright.

Here, Sir, ended a display of humour, pathos and poetic power, which places the gifted author among the great of his time. Such a beginning excites the highest hopes of his future performances. "One of them" possesses a piercing insight into the subtle springs of passion, and his verses, as I have endeavoured to point out, commence a new era in the poetry of our language. I am not to be turned from a hero-worship of which I am proud by the sarcasms of a friend at my elbow. *I* do not believe that this Ode has been inspired by a repast of pickled salmon, calves' liver, broiled mushrooms, lobster salad and rum punch. *I* do not believe it was written in a lunatic

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asylum, and printed at the time of the full moon. And lastly, I do not believe you will decline to publish my letter, because it is from

"LUMBER PLACED ON THE SHELF."

London, 24th May 1875.

"A LARGE CIRCULATION IN ALL PARTS OF THE GLOBE."

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR,—It will doubtless be a source of intense satisfaction to the officers and men composing the Arctic expedition—especially if any among them are Masons—to learn that, should they succeed in reaching the North Pole, though they may see or grasp no material pole, they will find your contemporary the *Freemason* in active circulation there, as "in all parts of the globe,"—see weekly announcement in that journal. There generally is a wag on board ship, and there is sure to be one on board two. This is a quaint way of putting it, I know; but I claim to be a little bit of a wag myself. Perhaps the dagger scene in *Macbeth* may suggest to his affrighted old poll to exclaim—

Is this a Brother, whom I see before me,
Freemason in his hand? Come, let me clutch thee:
I have thee not; and yet I see thee still.
Art thou not, Brother Mason, sensible
To feeling, as to sight? or art thou but
A Mason of the mind—a false creation,
Proceeding from my cold-oppressèd brain?

Yours fraternally, T.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE Right Honourable Lord Sherborne, R.W.P.G.M., held the annual Grand Lodge of the province on Tuesday 18th inst. in the Town Hall, Newnham, that town having been selected at the invitation of the Royal Forest of Dean Lodge, which had previously held an ordinary meeting, at which a Past Master's jewel was voted to Brother Edwin Crawshay, who has worthily filled the office of Master during the past year. There was a goodly attendance at Grand Lodge of brethren from all parts of the province, a portion of the Gloucester contingent doing the journey with a coach and four horses. The Masters of both the Lebanon and Royal Gloucestershire Lodges were present, each being well supported by his officers and brethren. Among those present were Lord Sherborne, Provincial Grand Master, and his deputy, G.F. Newmarch; Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Bart., M.P., Past Senior Warden of Grand Lodge, and Rev. C. J. Martyn, Past Grand Chaplin; Sir Brook Kay, Bart; E. Crawshay, James A. Goold, Rev. W. E. Hadow, Rev. H. G. Layton, E. Trinder, Gwinnett, Winterbotham, J. Brook Smith, Holman, Williams, Howard, W. Maier Martin, Bain, Taynton, Wheeler, Thomas, Fisher, Stocker, Gee, Tomes, Stephens, Roberts, Prowse, Trevor, Powell, Chance, Jeffs, Niblett, Telling, Ald. Murrell, W. C. Davis, R. W. White, N. Foster Worsley, Woodward, James Bruton, Weston, Matthews, Hastie, Josephs, Buchanan, Watts, E. Tew-Smith, E. Trimmer, Ricketts, Russell, J. Kerr, Cranstoun Kerr, T. Cadle, Dr. Partridge, W. H. C. Fisher, T. Moore Berry, Mullins, Darby, Sullivan, Samsion, Llewellyn, White, Gamble, Fairley, Morse, Trenfield, &c.

The Lodge having been opened with the accustomed rites, and prayer having been offered by Brother the Rev. W. E. Hadow, the minutes of the last Lodge were confirmed, and the usual statement of accounts was read and adopted. Regret was expressed for the severe illness which caused the absence of Bro. T. G. Palmer, the treasurer, but much gratification was evoked by the intimation that he is recovering, and willing to retain office. The special business before Grand Lodge was to consider a plan for giving more practical effect to the influence of subscribers to the chief Masonic Charities, which are Boys' and Girls' Institution, and the Benevolent Fund. It was considered necessary to increase the support now given by Gloucestershire to these institutions, the present subscriptions from all sources only furnishing 181 votes for the Boys' Institution, 87 to the Girls' Institution, 106 to the male department of the Benevolent Fund, and 63 votes to the female department. Several successive applications from the province have failed, owing to the comparatively small voting power; and this was explained by the fact that whereas 700 votes formerly sufficed to secure a boy's election, more than twice that number of votes are now required, in consequence of the large increase which has taken place in the aggregate subscriptions. On this subject the following resolution was unanimously adopted, the motion being carefully framed to reserve individual rights:—"That a standing committee, to be called 'The Masonic Charity Committee for Gloucestshire,' be formed, to consist of the P.G.M., the D.P.G.M., and P.G. Officers of the year, the W.M. of each Lodge, and the first Principal of the R.A. Chapter (or other Brother deputed by each Lodge and the Chapter) for the time being, with full power to frame any rules they may think fit for the conduct of the business and effecting the objects of the committee; and that the Lodges and individual subscribers to the charities be invited to entrust their votes to such committee, to be given in favour of such candidates, from time to time, as the committee may select, but with this express understanding that individual brethren who may subscribe to the charities, or any of them, shall be entirely at liberty to give their votes in favour of any candidates, and whether selected by the committee or not, in whom they may feel an especial interest."

The next subject was the proposal to present a testimonial to Bro. G. F. Newmarch, who has for many years filled the important office of Deputy Provincial Grand Master, to the admiration of all members of the Craft. Lord Sherborne proposed the testimonial, in order to show the general approval and grateful recollection of Brother Newmarch's invaluable services ever since the Grand Lodge was instituted. It was suggested, in order to make the presentation a fitting and appropriate one, that it should comprise a fraternal address and a substantial recognition; also that the recipient should be qualified as a permanent vice-president of one of the great charities. This was seconded by The Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C., who himself received a testimonial on leaving the province some years ago. The proposition was supported by Brother Henry Jeffs, and adopted with cordial unanimity. Brother Newmarch, in acknowledging the hearty good feeling manifested towards him, urged that the proposed testimonial should take the form of enduring aid to the charities rather than any gift to himself personally; in that way the brethren would evince their kind feeling in the way most acceptable to himself. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, in an eloquent and sympathetic address, spoke of Brother Newmarch as one who, above all others, deserved a signal recognition of services, and praised the modesty, kindness, and geniality which had endeared the Brother in question to everybody who knew him. Assuming that the general idea of Brother Newmarch would be carried out, Sir Michael suggested that a handsome personal testimonial should also be given to him, and proposed the formation of a committee to prepare the address, and take all necessary steps in regard to the presentation, which will probably take place at the next annual meeting of Grand Lodge. This was seconded by P.M. Brother T. N. Foster, and carried. A further resolution, proposed by Brother Gwinnett and seconded by Brother Alfred Goold, granted a sum of 100 guineas from the funds of Grand Lodge towards the objects in view.

The routine business was then proceeded with. The P.G.M. called the roll of Lodges in the following order, each one, with scarcely an exception, being reported as in a flourishing and satisfactory condition:—Royal Union Lodge, Cheltenham; Foundation Lodge, Cheltenham; Faith and Friendship Lodge, Berkeley; Royal Lebanon Lodge, Gloucester; Cotteswold Lodge, Cirencester; Sherborne Lodge, Stroud; St. John's Lodge, Dursley; Lodge of Sympathy, Wooten-under-Edge; Royal Gloucestershire Lodge, Gloucester; St. George's Lodge, Tewkesbury; Prince of Wales Lodge, Stow-on-the-Wold; Zetland Lodge, Radford; Royal Forest of Dean Lodge, Newnham; Tyndall Lodge, Chipping Sodbury.

The following officers were then appointed for the ensuing year:—Senior Warden, Bro. E. Crawshay; Junior Warden, Bro. T. T. Vizard; Chaplain, Bro. W. E. Hadow; Registrar, Bro. Nash; Senior Deacon, Bro. Darby; Junior Deacon, Bro. Joseph; Superintendent of Works, Bro. R. W. White; Directors of Ceremonies, Bros. Holman and Stephens; Pursuivant, Bro. Llewellyn Milman; Sword Bearer, Bro. Trenfield; Organist, Bro. Woodward; Secretary, Bro. Trinder; Tyler Bro. Wiggins.

The brethren of the Lodge afterwards dined together in a marquee at the back of the Victoria Hotel. Lord Sherborne presided, supported by the chief officers. The usual Masonic toasts were proposed from the chair, including one of thanks to the local stewards of the day, Brothers A. Goold, M. F. Carter, and S. M. Woods, who exerted themselves indefatigably for the comfort and entertainment of all.—*Gloucester Journal*, 22nd May 1875.

THE POPE'S DENUNCIATION OF FREEMASONRY.

(From the Liverpool *Daily Post*, 18th May.)

THERE is a story told of a Freemason who, wearied by his wife's importunity, informed her that the secret which is popularly associated with the Craft was nothing more nor less than a password consisting of the by no means classical or cabalistic words, "Cabbage and bacon." This she held like the sword of Damocles over his head, till at last one night, when her patience was exhausted at the prolonged absence of her lord, at the monthly meeting of his Lodge, she resolved to be revenged, and, repairing to the place where the brethren sat in solemn conclave, repeated, to the astonishment and perplexity of the Tyler, "Cabbage and bacon, cabbage and bacon." The poor woman, like many people at the present time, thought the Freemasons were no better than they should be, and that she was doing a public service, as well as revenging herself upon her husband by "physically and morally denouncing them." In spite, however, of its many enemies, Freemasonry flourishes, and the ban of the Pope appears to be utterly futile in staying its progress. Since the Prince of Wales accepted the Grand Mastership of the Order in England, the Catholic newspapers have been severely lecturing His Royal Highness for assuming the position which it was his pleasure to fulfil; and the other day one of them, in doing so, went so far as to ascribe the downfall of Charles X., Louis Philippe, and Napoleon III. to their connection with the Craft, and implored the Prince to take warning before it is too late. Before he has had time, however, to profit by this well-meant advice, the Pope again comes to the front to denounce Freemasonry, which he does in no measured terms. He declares that it is a nefarious sect, doing guilty battle against the Church, and says that were the true character of the body exposed, all honest men would turn from it with horror. The tendency of Freemasonry, the Pope holds, is to overturn civil and religious order, and consequently it has wisely been condemned by the Church. These are strong words to use towards a large body of persons who, to all outward appearance, conduct themselves as loyal and respectable citizens, and whose moral behaviour bears favourable comparison with that of any other society of their fellow subjects. It is possible the Pope may have been misinformed by those about him, whose duty it is to advise him on such matters, but be this as it may, it will suggest itself to most people in this country that the recent utterances of his Holiness amount to much the same thing as the wrathful woman's reiteration of "Cabbage and bacon."

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THE DRAMA.

"The Spendthrift" at the Olympic.—"Chilpéric" at the Alhambra.

MR. Albery's first piece, "The Two Roses," produced at the Vaudeville four years ago, was so good as to warrant the opinion then held, by most playgoers, that in him we possessed an author equal in ability to the late Mr. Robinson, but since then Mr. Albery has written nothing worthy of the reputation he acquired on his début—nothing indeed which, by any stretch of the imagination, could be considered successful. It is not enough to write disjointed bits of witty dialogue, as in the "Two Thorns," or airy fanciful ideas, as in "Oriana," there must be some backbone, in the shape of plot—something to sustain the interest through three hours of dialogue, and in this respect Mr. Albery has signally failed. Never so signally, however, as with "The Spendthrift," which can hardly be said to have a plot at all. The story, if it can be called one, is simply this: a lady, in a sedan chair, is attacked by a set of ruffians, who are beaten off by the heroic efforts of a ruined gentleman, the "Spendthrift," who eventually marries the lady. This is the plot, stated baldly and succinctly, and Mr. Albery's task in spreading it it over five acts must have been as difficult as the five acts are wearisome to his audience. There is some smart dialogue. Miss Fowler's dresses are very splendid, and Mr. Anson gives us a capital simulation of drunkenness: but these things do not make up a comedy, any more than bread is made of water and without flour. The piece may have been meant as an antidote to the sensationalism of "The Two Orphans;" we cannot imagine any other reason for the production of a play so utterly devoid of the elements of success. Mr. Neville is, we believe justly, a very popular actor, and Miss Fowler is an actress who has shown great improvement lately; but we are very much mistaken if the popularity of these two artistes will suffice to float "The Spendthrift."

"Chilpéric," when first produced at the LYCEUM, was an unquestionable success. M. Hervé himself played the amorous king, and M. Marius also made his first bow to an English audience. Since then Miss Soldene has performed in it, and it has now found its way to the boards of the Alhambra. The opera has not been improved by its change to the air of Leicester Square. The pretty airs and tuneful choruses which went so well in the smaller house are lost in the vast auditorium of the Alhambra, and the piece has been lengthened, much to its disadvantage. Mr. C. Lyall now plays Chilpéric, but we miss the grace and light touch of M. Hervé. Miss Lennox Grey is but a poor Tredegonda, and it is chiefly through her shortcomings that the quarelling duet falls so flatly. The piece is well dressed and mounted, as is always the case at the Alhambra, but that theatre is adapted for spectacular effect, not for the pretty frivolities of comic opera.

THE PRINCE OF WALES'S.

IT is not very creditable to the public taste that the production of the *Merchant of Venice* has turned out a disastrous failure. Nothing that could be effected by the management is wanting to ensure a success, save one thing—a fashionable Shylock. A Shylock whose language is unintelligible to an English audience would have provoked the enthusiasm of the little band of critics who are continually urging their readers to go and witness performances meaningless to many of them, and to those who do understand its expression, often ridiculous from its perversion of Shakespeare's vigorous Saxon. Mr. Coghlan's Shylock, viewed as a whole, is neither a very tame nor a very striking performance. In his first scene with Antonio and Bassanio his hatred of Christians is well controlled, to say the least of it, and his utterances against them seem more in the nature of philosophic musings than outbursts of rancorous feeling. In the subsequent scenes, however, upon the flight of his daughter, and that of the trial, we have never seen a better reading of the part, nor one more worthy of commendation. It is undeniable that Shylock does not here stand out from all the other characters in the play as it probably would have done in the hands of a "star" actor. There is no clipping of effective lines from the other parts to decrease their importance, nor are the other performers kept carefully in the background, lest the effulgence of the "star" might be dimmed in the sight of the audience. Whatever may be said of Mr. Bancroft's re-arrangement of the play, it has obviously been dictated by a desire to bring out clearly the true nature of every character in it. This he has succeeded in doing, but with a result he probably did not anticipate;—that his audience are more interested in the lottery of Portia than in the fate of the bankrupt merchant.

Much of this feeling is undoubtedly due to Miss Terry's rendering of the part. Miss Terry realizes to the letter Bassanio's fancy description of the lady in Belmont richly left. Grace, tenderness, and passion, find in her their natural exponent, and the public that can neglect such a performance as this is, displays little appreciation of any of them. In the trial scene—one that entwies in legitimate sensation the puny efforts of modern dramatists—her acting was natural and effective to a degree unparalleled in our experience of Portias.

The play is, throughout, represented with an evenness and apparent uniformity of talent that in our judgment has contributed to its failure. The lip-lovers of Shakespeare have, in their minds at most but two characters in each of his plays, and it pains such persons to see their favourites equalled in importance by characters whose names even do not live in their memory. Overlooking this past fact was Mr. Bancroft's mistake, but he is not likely, we should think, to repeat it. He has shown conclusively that the fuss made about Shakespeare is but empty talk, and that, so far as that ill-used author is concerned, the public care little for his work, and much for sensational actors.

CROSS.

FROM MACKEY'S ENCYCLOPÆDIA OF FREEMASONRY.

WE can find no symbolism of the cross in the primitive degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry. It does not appear among the symbols of the Apprentice, the Fellow Craft, the Master, or the Royal Arch. This is undoubtedly to be attributed to the fact that the cross was considered, by those who invented those degrees, only in reference to its character as a Christian sign. The subsequent archæological investigations that have given to the cross a more universal place in iconography were unknown to the rituals. It is true, that it is referred to, under the name of the *rode* or *rood*, in the manuscript of the fourteenth century, published by Halliwell; this was, however, one of the Constitutions of the Operative Freemasons, who were fond of the symbol, and were indebted for it to their ecclesiastical origin, and to their connection with the Gnostics, among whom the cross was a much used symbol. But on the revival in 1717, when the ritual was remodified, and differed very greatly from that meagre one in practice among the mediæval Masons, all allusion to the cross was left out, because the revivalists laid down the principle that the religion of Speculative Masonry was not sectarian but universal. And although this principle was in some points, as in the "lines parallel," neglected, the reticence as to the Christian sign of salvation has continued to the present day; so that the cross cannot be considered as a symbol in the primary and original degrees of Masonry.

But in the high degrees, the cross has been introduced as an important symbol. In some of them,—those which are to be traced to the Temple system of Ramsay,—it is to be viewed with reference to its Christian origin and meaning. Thus, in the original Rose Croix and Kadosh,—no matter what may be the modern interpretation given to it,—it was simply a representation of the cross of Christ. In others of a philosophical character, such as the Ineffable degrees, the symbolism of the cross was in all probability borrowed from the usages of antiquity, for from the earliest times and in almost all countries the cross has been a sacred symbol. It is depicted on the oldest monuments of Egypt, Assyria, Persia, and Hindustan. It was, says Faber (*Cabir.*, ii. 390), a symbol throughout the pagan world long previous to its becoming an object of veneration to Christians. In ancient symbology it was a symbol of eternal life. M. de Mortillet, who in 1866 published a work entitled *Le Signe de la Croix avant le Christianisme*, found in the very earliest epochs three principal symbols of universal occurrence: viz: the *circle*, the *pyramid*, and the *cross*. Leslie (*Man's Origin and Destiny*, p. 312), quoting from him in reference to the ancient worship of the cross, says, "It seems to have been a worship of such a peculiar nature as to exclude the worship of idols." This sacredness of the crucial symbol may be one reason why its form was often adopted, especially by the Celts, in the construction of their temples.

Of the Druidical veneration of the cross, Higgins quotes from the treaties of Schedius, *De Moribus Germanorum* (xxiv)., the following remarkable paragraph:—

"The Druids seek studiously for an oak-tree, large and handsome, growing up with two principal arms in the form of a cross, beside the main, upright stem. If the two horizontal arms are not sufficiently adapted to the figure, they fasten a cross beam to it. This tree they consecrate in this manner. Upon the right branch they cut in the bark, in fair characters, the word HESUS; upon the middle or upright stem, the word TARAMIS; upon the left branch, BELENUS; over this, above the going off of the arms, they cut the name of God, TUAU. Under all the same repeated, TUAU. This tree, so inscribed, they make their *kella* in the grove, cathedral, or summer church, towards which they direct their faces in the offices of religion."

THE STANDARD WORK.

From our earliest connection with Masonry the subject of the Standard Work has been dinned in our ears, and from the oldest Craftsman of our acquaintance to the youngest Master in the East, we have heard nothing but "Standard Work;" in fact, the changes have been so often rung in our ears, that we have, at times, been well nigh disgusted.

In this connection we cannot forego the mention of an incident of recent occurrence: A brother who was lately elected to a prominent position in the Lodge was ambitious upon the subject, and applied to an old and familiar friend of ours for the Standard Work. "Certainly, my dear young friend," he replied, "you shall have the Standard Work; call at my house this evening and I will furnish you with a copy of it."

The ambitious brother called, and his aged friend placed a volume in his hands, which the modesty of the recipient at the moment prevented his examining, though he was profuse in thanks and protestations of gratitude.

Shortly after, when about retiring, after a hasty glance at the book, he discovered that it was the Bible! Supposing that there had been a mistake, he remarked upon the fact, when his venerable host informed him that the volume which he had received contained *all that here was, is, or ever had been* in Masonry, and that if any son of [illegible] desired "more light" than [illegible], he must expect disappointment, and that he must [illegible] modern improvements as never add to the glory of the [illegible], and that original faith which makes all brothers.—*Brooklyn Review.*

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THE THEATRES, &c.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.—This evening FRA DIAVOLO. On Monday, FAUST E MARGHERITA. On Tuesday, LES DIAMANS DE LA COURONNE. On Wednesday, DER FREISCHUTZ. On Thursday, IL BARBIERE DI SIVIGLIA. On Friday, L'AFRICAINE. At 8.30 each evening, except Friday, when the Opera will commence at 8 o'clock.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA, DRURY LANE.—This evening, FAUST. On Monday, LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR. On Tuesday, LES HUGUENOTS. On Thursday, IL TALISMANO, at 8.30 each evening On Monday morning, at 2.30, a d Friday evening, at 8.30, HAMLET. On Wednesday evening, at 8.30, OTHELLO.

HAYMARKET.—At 7.30, A FAIR ENCOUNTER, DAVID GARRICK, and THE SERIOUS FAMILY.

ADELPHI.—At 6.45, TWO HEADS ARE BETTER THAN ONE, NICHOLAS NICKLEBY and A PANTOMIME REHEARSED.

PRINCESS'S.—At 7.30, ROUND THE WORLD IN EIGHTY DAYS.

LYCEUM.—At 6.30, FISH OUT OF WATER. At 7.45, HAMLET. On Saturday, a morning performance at 2.30 only.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.30, TWENTY MINUTES WITH A TIGER. AT 8.0, THE SPENDTHRIFT.

STRAND.—At 7.30, AN EARNEST APPEAL. At 8.0, WEAK WOMEN and INTIMIDAD.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 7.45, MONEY.

GAIETY.—At 8.0, FRENCH COMIC OPERA.

GLOBE.—At 7.0, EAST LYNNE and BLUE BEARD. (Last Nights.)

ST. JAMES'S.—At 7.30, A PHENOMENON IN A SMOCK FROCK, TOM COBB and TRYING IT ON.

ROYALTY.—At 7.45, THE SECRET. At 8.15, LA PERICHOLE. At 10.15, TRIAL BY JURY.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG, OUR BOYS and A FEARFUL FOG.

CHARING CROSS.—JEANNE DUBARRY and CATTARINA.

MIRROR.—At 7.0, NAVAL ENGAGEMENTS. At 8.15, THE DETECTIVE.

OPERA COMIQUE.—At 8.0, ANDREA. On and after Tuesday LES JOCRISSES DE L'AMOUR.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, THE ARTFUL DODGE and CHILPERIC.

CRITERION.—At 8.0, GIROFLE GIROFLA.

COURT.—At 7.30, SHORT AND SWEET. At 8.30, LADY FLORA.

SURREY.—KING HENRY IV.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—This Day, BLUE BEARD, PROMENADE CONCERT. On Monday, LECTURE by Capt. DAVIS on the ARTIC EXPEDITION. DOG SHOW, 1st to 4th June. Open daily. AQUARIUM, PICTURE GALLERY, &c.

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AT the Annual General Meeting of this Institution, held at Freemasons' Hall, London, on Friday, the 21st May 1875, W. Bro. JOHN SAVAGE (V.P.) P.G.D. in the Chair. After the general business was disposed of, the Governors and Subscribers proceeded to the ELECTION OF ANNUITANTS, from an approved List of Thirty-three Male Candidates, and Thirty-four Female Candidates, when the following were declared SUCCESSFUL:—

MALES.

	Votes		Votes
Bro. Cooper, Henry S.	1120	Bro. Jonn, F. P.	892
,, Beckett, John	1033	,, Sumner, John	849
,, Partridge, Chas.	896	,, Iron, William J.	847
,, Graves, Richard	894	,, Curran, Chas.	507
,, Walker, Jeremiah ...	853	,, Crawley, Young	487
,, Weeks, William	819	,, Cook, Osbert	466
,, Halsey, J. W.	793	,, Withers, James	411
,, Hickmott, William ...	778	,, Gibbons Robert	410
,, Ough, John	740	* ,, Lord, Thos.	396
,, Harrex, J. P.	713	* ,, Stafford, Thos.	377
,, Suter, Thos.	690	* ,, Pilling, William	375
,, Kidd, Richard	689	* ,, Earnshaw, John	329
,, Findley, George S. ...	660	* ,, Low, George	326
,, Champion, George ...	593	* ,, Maugher, Nicholas ...	251

WIDOWS.

	Votes		Votes
Mrs. Sarah White	867	Mrs. M. A. Dewhirst	634
,, E. C. Fenton	790	,, E. Anderson	615
,, Sarah Newnham	789	,, H. C. Stainbank	582
,, Margaret Stuart	786	,, M. Buckley	573
,, Nancy Gee	753	,, H. Mills	546
,, Ann Hodgson	696	,, A. Radmore	536
,, Mary Warriner	694	* ,, Ann Clarke	527
,, Heather Bright	675	* ,, Esther Dawson	509
,, M. A. M. Hampton ...	663	* ,, Maria Stagg	499

The Votes of the Unsuccessful Candidates will be carried forward to the next Election.

Those marked thus (*) are Elected to fill Vacancies occasioned by death since the Voting Papers were issued.

JAMES TERRY,
Secretary.

21st May 1875.

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RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF LIMERICK, R.W.D.G.M., AND M.W.G.M. ELECT.

THE SUMMER HALF-YEARLY COMMUNICATION of this GRAND LODGE will be held at Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, on TUESDAY, the 1st of June 1875, when and where all Grand Officers (past and present), W. Masters, Past Masters, Wardens, and Overseers of Private Lodges, are hereby summoned to attend, and at which, by permission, all regularly registered Mark Master Masons may be present.

GRAND LODGE will be opened at 5 o'clock p.m., when the M.W.G.M. Elect will be Installed. The BANQUET will be provided at 7 o'clock. Tickets, 15s (inclusive of Wine and Dessert), if taken before the day of meeting. Brethren intending to be present are requested to send their names to the Grand Stewards, care of the Grand Secretary, as under.

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67 BARBICAN, E.C.

RESUME OF THE WEEK'S NEWS.

PARLIAMENT, or rather the House of Commons, on meeting again after the Whitsun recess, proceeded, with its wonted ardour, to the transaction of the very important business of voting estimates. After the disposal of sundry motions, the House went into Committee of Supply, and further progress was made on Thursday evening with the Army Estimates. On Friday, Mr. Charley drew the attention of the House to the diminished number of Bishops in the House of Lords, but he made

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no definite proposition. Mr. S. Lloyd then moved a resolution to the effect that a Secretaryship of State for Commerce and Agriculture should be constituted, but the proposal was negatived without a division. Sir W. Fraser then touched on the question of fires in London Theatres, and Mr. Gorst called attention to a recent Treasury Minute on Government Prosecutions, after which the House went into Committee of Supply and voted further moneys for the service of the year. Progress was then reported, and the Bishopric of St. Alban's Bill as amended was taken into consideration and ordered to be read a third time on Monday. The Report on Amendments on the Sale of Food and Drugs Bill having been considered, the House, after the transaction of other business, adjourned. The chief business of Monday was the second reading of the Public Works Loan Acts Amendment Bill, to which Mr. Fawcett moved a counter resolution. A long debate ensued, in which several leading members of the Government and Opposition took part, the result being a victory for the Government, the resolution being defeated by 249 to 175. Sundry measures were advanced a stage, after which the House rose. On Tuesday, a motion for the adjournment over the Derby Day was opposed by Sir W. Lawson, but, on division, the usual holiday was carried by 206 to 81. This being disposed of, the House went into Committee on the Public Health Bill, the clauses up to 198 being agreed to, when the Chairman was ordered to report progress. Sir W. S. Maxwell then called attention to the Scotch Education Act, but his motion was negatived. Soon after the House rose. On Thursday, the House went into Committee on the Customs and Inland Revenue Bill, which, after sundry amendments, was reported. Afterwards, a long and important debate ensued on the motion for going into Committee on the Savings' Bank Bill, Mr. Fawcett moving a resolution on the subject, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Cross, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Lowe, and others, taking a more or less conspicuous part. The preamble having been agreed to, the Chairman was ordered to report progress. Among other measures advanced a stage, may be enumerated the Public Health Bill, which passed through Committee amid cheers. The House afterwards adjourned at a little after 1 a.m. on Friday. The decision as to the recent election for Co. Tipperary is now published. The full court have declared that Mr. Mitchel was not duly elected, and that Mr. Moore, who had served notice on the electors prior to the election, of his intention to claim the seat if the majority of the votes were in favour of his antagonist, has been declared elected. Thus ends a grand difficulty, or, at all events, what seemed to be one not long since.

The Derby week, without a notice of the Derby, would be like the play of "Hamlet" with the part of Hamlet omitted. It is no news to tell our readers that the weather was brilliant, the attendance, as a natural result, immense, and that among those who visited the downs, a royal party, including the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, the Duke of Cambridge and others were not the least conspicuous or least delighted of the visitors. The favourite, Galopin, ridden by Morris, won, Claremont being second, and the Repentance colt, being a somewhat indifferent third. We may add that the Royal party were most enthusiastically cheered, both on their arrival and departure. Great credit is due to Bro. Superintendent Mott, Bro. Superintendent Digby, and Inspectors Denning, Trixon, Shenton, Horsley, Robinson, Dunn, &c., &c., and a very efficient corps of police for the services they rendered. The course was cleared punctually as each race was announced, and good order prevailed everywhere. On the road, too, the same precautions as to comfort and freedom of locomotion were observed, no difficulty being experienced, and only a few trivial mishaps occurring. We are not sufficiently sensible of the immense services rendered by the police. It is only just, therefore, that we should give them praise when praise is their due.

On Friday last, the Prince of Wales and the Dukes of Edinburgh and Cambridge paid a visit of inspection to the Arctic ships, "Alert" and "Discovery." The Prince and party made a most minute examination of the arrangements, and expressed themselves in the highest terms of the pleasure they had derived from the visit. On Saturday, the Empress Eugénie and the Prince Imperial inspected the vessels, which, as we have already announced, are appointed to leave Spithead this day.

Cricket is in full swing, and several important matches have been played. Yorkshire v. Middlesex was drawn, the "tykes" scoring 229 and 280, while Middlesex amassed in its one innings a total of 216. The principal contributors were—for Yorkshire, Hicks 33 and 42, Rawlinson 31 and 40, Greenwood 3 and 5, Lockwood 11 and 49, Ulyett 17 and 23, Pinder 23 and 25, Clayton 62 and 17, and A. Hill, not out, 39 and 1. For Middlesex, J. D. Walker made 55, G. Bird 31, C. F. Buller 41, and C. J. Thomlin 39. On Monday Yorkshire played the M.C.C. and Ground, but the totals were much smaller—M.C.C. made 123 and 90 for the loss of three wickets, the "Leviathan" contributing 12 and not out 41, while Yorkshire obtained only 93, Hicks and Greenwood being the chief scorers, with 26 and 22 respectively. On Tuesday, the M.C.C. continued their innings, W. G. Grace carrying his score to 71, and the total reaching 205. Yorkshire only put together 96 in its second innings, Hicks, Lockwood, Clayton, and West being the principal contributors. The second North v. South Match commenced at Prince's on Thursday, and W. G. Grace and his brother, G. F. Grace were playing in admirable form, the former achieving 82, and the younger brother 103, the total of the innings being 355. We shall watch the progress of the Graces this season with great interest. Nor does the activity of the sporting world end here. On Saturday the Civil Servants of the Crown held their annual meeting, and a greater muster of spectators than usual was the consequence, somewhere between 12,00 and 13,000 being present. Reay and Herbert, of the Inland Revenue, were the principal winners, the former carrying off the hurdles, the hundred yards, the two hundred and twenty yards Challenge Cup, and the quarter mile, while the latter secured the mile and two miles. The Exchequer and Audit were also successful, Reddie winning the 600 yards maiden race and running a good second in the half mile handicap, and Henson being first in the three miles walking. On Wednesday, Lillie Bridge was alive with the Blues, who held their annual athletic fête there, for the first time this year. A. Back was *facilè princeps* among the seniors, and was chaired and cheered accordingly, when the sports were over. The School Band were present, and contributed very effectively to the pleasure of the meeting. To call a lady blue-stocking is not generally regarded as complimentary, but a yellow-stocking is a member of a very ancient and honourable fraternity. Bro. Dr. Brette has some fine fellows under his charge. May they be as proficient in French as they seem to be in athletics. Be it remarked also, that an old Blue—Field—has recently gained the Gaisford at Oxford. Thus athletics and sound scholarship go hand in hand. Our logic may be open to objection perhaps, but our facts are indisputable.

The match for the Billiard Championship came off at the Criterion on Monday, in the presence of some hundreds of spectators, the competitors being Cooke, champion, and young Roberts. No great scores marked the order of the play, nor was the spot stroke much cultivated. Roberts won by 163 points, after a long and somewhat tedious game. The table was erected by Messrs. Cox and Yeman, and D. Ingarfield marked the game, which lasted 3 hours 42 minutes.

The Alexandra Palace directors pursue the even tenour of their way very effectively, and, we imagine, very satisfactorily to the public. There have been very full attendances during the week, notably on Saturday and Thursday, on which latter occasion magnesium lights and other brilliant attractions brought together a large assemblage. We believe in pluck, and nobody has shown this to greater advantage than the managers of the Northern Palace.

The state of Europe remains much as it was when we wrote last, and much, we fear, as it will be while so strong a jealousy among the leading powers continues to exist. But, in spite of the uncomfortable feeling which prevails almost everywhere, we read of Royal and Imperial visits taking place. The other day we announced the visit of the Emperor of Russia to his Imperial brother at Berlin. Now it is the King of Sweden, *en route*, we believe, for the same capital. His first halting-place has been Copenhagen, where he has been well and hospitably received by the King of Denmark. There is a strong, natural sympathy between these two little kingdoms and their rulers, and we think a defensive alliance of them would be very popular in both, though it might have the effect of creating some jealousy in the adjoining States of Russia and Germany. We hope the day is far distant when these plucky little States, and Holland also, shall be swallowed up by some mightier power. We no more need the

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supremacy of one power over all Europe now, than we did in the days of Charles the Fifth, or of Napoleon I., nor even two big powers strong enough to dictate to the rest of Europe. We fancy the idea of "a balance of power" is not wholly exploded. Meantime, however, the world jogs along somehow in spite of the armed millions who are ready to eat us all up, themselves included. The Pope is better, we hope, after his recent onslaught on us poor innocent Masons, who wish His Holiness no harm. The Carlists and the Alphonsists are still hammering away at each other with as little prospect as ever, though the former have killed an Alphonsist admiral, and wounded sundry of his officers. Garibaldi's scheme for the improvement of the Tiber, is a grand idea, and if the fine old river recover any of its old form, we shall heartily thank the General for his services. Our American cousins are looking forward to a series of centenary celebrations in connection with the establishment of their Independence of the old country, while the proposed Exhibition at Philadelphia next year is beginning to excite more interest. Next week will witness an imposing Masonic ceremonial in New York, being nothing less than the opening of the New Masonic Temple in that city. We cordially wish our brothers all success on the occasion.

The regular meeting of the Committee of the Girls' School was held on Thursday, the 27th instant, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Bro. Major Creaton P.G.D. in the chair. The Secretary, Bro. Robert Wentworth Little, read the minutes of the former meeting, and the report of the House Committee, which were confirmed. It was proposed and seconded that the recommendation of the House Committee for the appointment of Miss Mess as Head Governess be approved, which was carried. Six candidates were appointed and recommended to be placed on the list of the Quarterly Court in July for election in October. The election for brethren to serve on the House Committee took place, and scrutineers having been appointed, the result of the election was as follows, viz.: Bros. Henry Browse, Henry A. Dubois, Benjamin Head, Joshua Nunn, W. Paas, Lt.-Col. James Peters, J. A. Rucker, Raynham W. Stewart, Griffiths Smith, Alfred H. Tattershall, Rev. Joseph M. Vaughan, Thomas W. White. A notice of motion was given by Bro. Benjamin Head P.G.D. that the sum of 100 guineas be presented to Miss Davis on her retiring from the School, which was supplemented by Bro. F. Binckes P.G.S. that a testimonial be presented to her, engrossed on vellum, to shew the appreciation of her services rendered for so many years. Bro. White proposed that a vice-patronship be presented to Bro. Dr. Howell for his services rendered to the School. The undermentioned brethren were nominated to be on the Audit Committee for the year 1875-76 at the General Committee, Thursday, 29th April 1875, and no others were named:—Bros. John G. Chancellor, Henry C. Levander, H. M. Levy, John G. Marsh, Joshua Nunn, William Paas, William Roebuck, John Symonds, Robert B. Webster. Bro. Jas. Rucker proposed a vote of thanks to Bro. Major Creaton for his impartial conduct in the chair, which was carried, and the meeting was adjourned to the following month. There were present also Col. Burdett P.G.M. Middlesex, Bros. J. A Rucker P.G.D., H. Browse P.G.D., B. Head P.G.D., J. Nunn P.G.S.B., W. Paas, J. Symonds P.G.D., E. Thiellay, Rev. J. M. Vaughan, G. Kenning, C. Hogard, H. Massey, C. Moutrie, R. B. Webster, Griffiths Smith, T. Cubitt P.G.P., Swallow, Col. Peters, A. H. Draper, H. W. Hemsworth, Harriss, Loewenstark, Tattershall, H. M. Levy, F. Binckes, H. G. Buss, Jardine, Peacock, Dr. Ramsay, Hunt, Yeoman, A. C. Burrell, H. Dubois, J. T. Moss, B. Picking, Major Finney, J. Last, Hyde Pullen D.G.M., Turkey, Marsh, R. W. Stewart, T. H. Edmunds.

The Musical Committee for the ensuing Festival of the Boys' School will meet at 4 o'clock on 2nd June, and the Stewards will meet at 5 o'clock, on the same day, at Freemasons' Hall.

We are happy to announce the marriage of Bro. Chas. Magnus Ohren of Lodge No. 452, which was solemnized at St. John's Church, Forest Hill, on the 16th instant. The bride is the eldest daughter of James Watson, Esq., C.E., of Lower Sydenham, and more than the usual interest was manifested in the event in consequence of the great popularity of the parents of both bride and bridegroom. Bro. Magnus Ohren Prov. G.J.W. Surrey, the father of the latter, as the able Secretary of the Crystal Palace District Gas Company, and James Watson, Esq., C.E., the father of the bride, as the Engineer and Manager, is most deservedly popular with the large staff of *employés* under his command. The men connected with the works turned out to do honour to their chiefs, and lined the road leading to the church. The marriage ceremony was performed by the Rev. Dr. Boyd, in the presence of a large number of persons, who crowded the sacred edifice, and manifested the deepest interest in the proceedings. The bridesmaids were Miss Kate Ohren, Miss Nellie Watson and Miss Mary Macrostie. After the wedding breakfast, which was prepared by Messrs. Sawyer, of the Crystal Palace, the newly married pair started for the Isle of Wight, where they intend spending the honeymoon. We may add that the wedding presents were numerous and costly, and that in the midst of the general rejoicings the work people were not forgotten.

In another part of our columns it will be seen that Captain Boyton is now a member of our Order, and we trust it will be in our power to announce, in the present number, the successful passage of the Channel by our newly initiated brother.

On the declaration of the poll, at the election on the 21st inst., of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, Bro. H. Smith proposed that a vote of thanks be accorded to the scrutineers for their arduous duties, which had been discharged in so able a manner. Bro. J. Constable proposed that the proceedings of the day be printed and circulated amongst the Lodges under the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of England. Bro. Anderson proposed that the proceedings of the day be advertised in the daily papers, THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, and the *Freemason*. Bro. E. Cox proposed that a vote of thanks be accorded to Bro. John Savage P.G.D. for his efficient services as chairman. The foregoing propositions, having been duly seconded, were unanimously carried.

The Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell Green, will meet at 7 o'clock on Monday next, the 31st instant, to work the 15 sections. Bro. Beckett Preceptor.

There are fashions in trade as well as in costume, and the ever changing tastes or caprices of the public are constantly stimulated by ever varying novelties. A new name has often helped to palm off an inferior article, and the tradesman who possesses a fertile imagination is often able to put his less poetic rivals in the shade. The wine trade has not escaped the trenchant hand of the innovator, and it has undergone some strange vicissitudes of late. The grand old ports and sherries which pleased the palates of our grandfathers have been replaced, in some quarters, by the less agreeable vintages of South Africa and Australia. South African port has not taken any firm hold of the British middle classes, and a taste for the wines of Australia has yet to be formed. The public need educating before they can appreciate these "choice vintages." Homely people who still stick to their port, have a weakness for the full bodied nectar of Messrs. Day and Martin, which might be palmed off as liquid blacking and nobody would be any the wiser. The Pro Rata system of Messrs. Spiers and Pond does not appear to have satisfied the popular mind; indeed, as far as we are able to judge, it has collapsed as completely and as suddenly as the movement in the Civil Service for a Pro Rata Increase of Salaries. Few of our wine merchants appear to have tried the common sense system; but we are happy to mention an exception in the case of Messrs. Feltoe and Sons, whose Specialité Sherry marks a new point of departure in the history of the trade. This wine has already achieved a high reputation, which we are constrained to say it really deserves. Connoisseurs will find in it all the valuable qualities which are usually looked for only in wines of a high price. It has a fine bouquet, fair strength, an excellent and nutty flavour, and, being entirely free from heat and acidity, it may be taken with great benefit by dyspeptic persons. We have tasted it before our friends without hesitation, and their verdict has been highly favourable. We can confidently recom-

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mend it to our readers. They will find the Specialite Sherry absolutely unvarying in its quality, and they may offer it to the most fastidious guest without the slighest misgiving. Coming before the world, as this wine does, at a time when public confidence has been shaken in the character of the ordinary sherries with which the market is stocked, it should command the patronage and confidence of a large class of wine drinkers.

Bro. H. Wright, No. 188, who has for many years been associated with the Sacred Harmonic Society, announces a grand Evening Concert at Exeter Hall. The vocalists are Miss Bessie Stroud, Madame Poole, Miss C. Leslie, Bros. Theodore Distin, G. T. Carter, F. J. Jones; Pianoforte, J. Liddell; and part of the band of the Coldstream Guards, conducted by Mr. H. G. Dyer.

Bro. G. S. States, late manager of the Caledonian Hotel, Robert Street, Adelphi, has been unanimously elected manager of the New City Club, George Yard, Lombard Street. From the long and practical experience of our worthy brother, the members could not have made a better selection.

The following is the List of unsuccessful Female Candidates at the Election of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, on Friday 21st May, and the number of votes polled by each. These will be duly carried forward to their credit at the next Election.

No. on Voting Paper	Name	Forward	To-day	Total	No. on Poll
2	Tidswell, Susannah	35	308	343	—
3	Wreyford, Elizabeth	137	25	162	—
8	Churchill, Elizabeth	14	48	62	—
9	Gidney, Lydia	19	81	100	—
10	Elliott, Isabella	15	4	19	—
15	Wilkes, Elizabeth	71	88	159	—
16	Dark, Ann	3	1	14	—
17	Redick, Maria	—	460	460	—
18	Edwards, Eleanor	23	65	88	—
19	Chipchase, Emily	33	2	35	—
20	Charlton, Sarah	3	69	72	—
24	Cowen, Harriet	—	131	——	——
27	Keen, Mary	—	11	——	——
30	Russell, Sarah	—	43	——	——
32	Shearer, Anne	—	84	——	——
35	Hoare, Henrietta	—	480	——	——

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Bilious complaints and irregularities of the system, produced by depraved or over-abundant bile, can always be corrected by a few doses of these inestimable Pills, which are everywhere admired for their rare combination of mildness and power; for though they conquer with ease and rapidity the most obstinate disease, they never weaken the stomach, or necessitate any interruption of ordinary duties or amusements. On the contrary, they increase the appetite to all the animal functions, and fit both hand and brain for fresh exertions. The sick and enfeebled may, by a single trial, speedily discover what a happy revolution these Pills have the power to effect in the human system.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY NEWS.

FRIDAY.

Business during the past week has been dull, accounted for by the Epsom races, the approaching fortnightly settlement and the general depressed state of trade. The railway market has suffered nearly all round, and other branches are in the same state.

The best feature in the Bank Return is undoubtedly the large increase in the coin and bullion during the past week, the increase being £954,529. The reserve being now equal to 40¾ per cent. of the liabilities.

The report of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, to be presented to the meeting on the 8th June, states, that owing to a reduction in the mail subsidies and a decrease in the receipts on the lines to and from Bombay, the result of the operations of the half-year is less favourable than for many years past. After deducting from the revenue the current expenditure, and adding the usual reserves for depreciation and insurance, there remains a profit on the working account, but not such as to justify the directors in recommending the payment of an interim dividend. The Australian subsidy is £10,000 less per annum than formerly, and the Imperial subsidy is £20,000 per annum less, besides being now subject to deductions for heavy penalties arising from bad weather and other causes of detention over which the company has no control. The result is a diminution under the head of subsidy in the revenue for the six months ended March last of £22,000, compared with the same period of last year. The causes of the still more serious falling off in the earnings on the Bombay lines are also fully explained. The most important items of account show an important reduction in the expenditure, which, it is believed, will involved a considerable saving during the current year. The directors add that, although regretting the result of the half-year's operations, they feel that they have done their utmost to ensure success under the circumstances. In addition to replacing the older steamers by vessels of an improved class they have, in every department of the service, applied measures of stringent economy, and placed the various lines of communication and the arrangement of their work on a new basis, which is calculated to maintain and strengthen the position of the undertaking for postal and commercial purposes.

According to the report of the Queen Insurance Company the fire premiums for 1874 amounted to £334,630, and the losses to £185,694. Out of the balance £90,753, was declared a dividend and bonus of 15 per cent. £50,000 was carried to suspense account, and a balance of £13,778 was carried forward.

A dividend and bonus equal to 10 per cent. is recommended by Liebig's Extract of Meat Company Limited, the available total for the year being £75,097; £25,000 is added to reserve fund, and the balance, £4020 carried forward.

It is stated that the new business of the Great Britain Mutual Life Assurance Society for 1874 amounted to £374,302.

At a meeting of the Northern Railway of Buenos Ayres a dividend of 7 per cent. per annum was declared.

At the meeting yesterday of the General Life and Fire Assurance Company, a dividend of 7 per cent. was declared.

The Tunisian Railways Company Limited have declared a dividend on the preference shares at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum for the five months ending with December last.

The report of the Bank of British North America recommends a dividend of £2 10s per share, payable the 3rd of July, and the "rest" has been increased to £250,249.

The Clearing House return for the past week gives a total of £91,247,000, against as £83,795,000 for the corresponding week last year.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

The following statement shows the receipts for traffic on the undermentioned railways for the past week, as compared with the corresponding week in 1874:—

Railway.	Miles open. 1875	Receipts. 1875 £	1874 £
Caledonian	737½	55,873	53,002
Glasgow and South Western	315½	17,751	17,344
Great Eastern	763	54,964	52,855
Great Northern	523	56,044	55,357
Great Western	1,525	113,346	113,175
Lancashire and Yorkshire	430	97,102	62,808
London and Brighton	376½	30,522	30,157
London, Chatham and Dover	153½	21,594	19,112
London and North Western	1,582½	181,762	171,285
London and South Western	626½	43,103	40,183
London, Tilbury and Southend	45	——	——
Manchester and Sheffield	259½	31,794	30,694
Midland	956½	133,587	116,666
Metropolitan	8	10,121	8,780
" " District	8	5,507	4,708
" " St. John's Wood	1½	549	457
North British	839	46,159	40,973
North Eastern	1,393	136,289	109,491
North London	12	8,145	7,077
North Staffordshire Railway	190	12,525	10,141
" " Canal	118	1,199	1,592
South Eastern	350	44,063	37,865

THE FOUNDING OF PHILADELPHIA.—For the capital of Pennsylvania the "City of Brotherly Love," which is "Philadelphia" in New Testiment Greek, a site was chosen by William Penn at a place named by the Indians Wicaco, situated at the junction of the Delaware and the Schuylkill. It was bought of three Swedish colonists, by whom it had been occupied before. The projected city was to cover twelve square miles: Penn would have liked every house to to be surrounded by its large garden, so that the whole might be a "green country town." The colonial surveyor very soon laid out his plan for the making of this town, with a series of parallel roads or streets across the neck of land between the two rivers, intersected at certain angles by another series, equally straight, but in general following the lines of the rivers' course to their junction. The streets being wide, and well planted with a variety of fine trees the effect is rather pleasing. Philadelphia, as an infant city, grew very rapidly and healthily from its birth in the summer of 1682. Two years after that time, it contained six hundred houses. It had a riverside quay, where vessels of five hundred tons burthen could be unladen at the wharf; a commodious inn, the "Blue Anchor," built in the old Cheshire style of a timber frame filled up with brickwork, which served also for the corn-exchange and post office; chapels and schools, and even a printing office. The population was increased by the arrival of two or three vessels monthly, bringing families who soon made themselves at home.—*Cassell's "Illustrated History of the United States."*

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DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be greatly obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the kingdom would favour us with a copy of their summonses each time of issue.

SATURDAY, 29th MAY.

R. A. 29—Harmony, Royal Hotel, Wigan.

MONDAY, 31st MAY.

45—Strong Man, Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell Green, at 8 (Instruction).

R. A. 188—Joppa, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.

148—Light, Masonic Rooms, Warrington.
1073—Greta, Private Rooms, Keswick.

R. A. 219—Justice, Masonic Hall, Todmorden.
R. A. 446—Regularity, Freemason's Hall, Halifax.
M.M. 143—Birchall, Bull Hotel, Preston.
M.M. 146—Moore, Masonic Rooms, Lancaster.

TUESDAY, 1st JUNE.

Colonial Board, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.
Grand Lodge M.M., 2 Red Lion-square, Holborn. (Installation.)
171—Amity, Ship Hotel, Greenwich.
1383—Friends in Council, 33 Golden-square.
1472—Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich.

R. A. 169—Temperance, White Swan Tavern, Deptford.

57—Humber, Freemasons' Hall, Hull.
70—St. John's, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
103—Beaufort, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
124—Marquis of Granby, Freemasons' Hall, Durham.
265—Royal Yorkshire, Masonic Hall, Keighley, Yorks.
995—Furness, Masonic Temple, Ulverston.
1002—Skiddaw, Market Place Cockermouth.
1134—Newall, Freemasons' Hall, Salford.
1244—Marwood, Freemasons' Hall, Redcar.
1322—Waverley, Church Inn, Hurst Cross, Ashton-under-Lyne.
1476—Blackpool, Clifton Arms Hotel, Blackpool.

R. A. 203—St. John of Jerusalem, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
R. A. 296—Loyalty, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
R. A. 320—Integrity, Junction Inn, Mottram.
M.M. 161—Walton, St. Lawrence Boys' School, Kirkdale.

WEDNESDAY, 2nd JUNE.

Quarterly Communication, Freemasons' Hall, at 6 for 7.
193—Confidence, White Hart, Abchurch Lane, at 7.30 (Instruction).
1491—Athenæum, The Athenæum, Camden-road, Holloway, N.

74—Athol, Masonic Hall, Severn-street, Birmingham.
94—Phœnix, Freemasons' Hall, Sunderland.
168—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Guernsey.
296—Harmony, Masonic Rooms, Rochdale.
304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
322—Peace, Warren Arms, Stockport.
327—St. John's, Lion and Lamb, Wigton.
426—Sincerity, Angel Hotel, Northwich.
493—Belvidere, Star Hotel, Maidstone (Instruction).
645—Humphrey Chetham, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
673—St. John's, 90 Duke-street, Liverpool.
678—Earl Ellesmere, Church Hotel, Kersley, near Bolton.
730—Ellesmere, Royal Oak Hotel, Chorley.
808—Franklin, Peacock Hotel, Boston.
992—St. Thomas, Griffin Hotel, Lower Broughton.
1013—Royal Victoria, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
1144—Milton, Ryecroft Inn, Ashton-under-Lyne.
1274—Earl of Durham, Freemasons' Hall, Chester-le-Street.
1354—Marquis of Lorne, Masonic Rooms, Leigh.

R. A. 288—Todmorden, Masonic Hall, Todmorden.
M.M. 30—Furness, Hartington Hotel, Barrow-in-Furness.

THURSDAY, 3rd JUNE.

10—Westminster and Keystone, Freemasons' Hall.
742—Crystal Palace, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge.
1155—Excelsior, Sydney Arms, Lewisham-road.
1178—Perfect Ashlar, Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge.
1445—Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tavern, Sandringham-road, Kingsland.

R. A. 9—Moriah, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.

24—Newcastle-on-Tyne, Freemasons' Hall, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
31—United Industrious, Guildhall, Canterbury.
130—Loyal Cambrian, Bush Hotel, Merthyr Tydvil.
249—Mariners, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
287—Stone of Friendship, Dog and Partridge, Stockport.
289—Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Carlton Hill, Leeds.
295—Combermere, L. Union, Macclesfield Arms, Macclesfield.
309—Minerva, Pitt and Nelson Hotel, Ashton-under-Lyne.
317—Affability, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
412—Holy Temple, Wheat-sheaf Hotel, Longtown.
502—Tees, Masons'-court, Stockton-on-Tees.
531—St. Hedda's, Masonic Hall, Hartlepool.
758—Bridgewater, Masonic Hall, Runcorn.
974—Pentalpha, Freemasons' Hall, Bradford.
1002—Prince of Wales, Derby Hotel, Bury.
1056—Royal Edward, Commercial Inn, Stalybridge.
1145—Equality, Red Lion Hotel, Accrington.
1231—Savile, Regal Hotel, Elland, Yorks.
1301—Olive Union, Masonic Hall, Back-street, Horncastle.
1319—Metropolitan of Ripon, Masonic Hall, Darlington.
1351—Friendly, King's Head, Barnsley, Yorks.
1504—Red Rose of Lancaster, Swan Hotel, Padiham, near Burnley.

R. A. 275—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield.
R. A. 345—Perseverance, Old Bull Hotel, Blackburn.
R. A. 344—St. John, Bull's Head Inn, Bolton.
R. A. 381—Rectitude, Corporation Hotel, Openshaw, near Manchester.
M.M. 20—Faith, Spread Eagle Inn, Rochdale.
K.T.—Hugh de Payens, Old Bull Hotel, Blackburn.
K.T.—Love and Friendship, Bulkeley Arms Hotel, Stockport.

FRIDAY, 4th JUNE.

706—Florence Nightingale, Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich.
1275—Star Ship Hotel, Greenwich.
1469—Marquess of Ripon, Metropolitan Asylum, Ball's Pond-road.

R. A. 259—Prince of Wales, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.

44—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
219—Prudence, Masonic Hall, Todmorden.
242—St. George's, Town Hall, Doncaster.
306—Alfred, 23 Ashton-street, Leeds.
321—Tuscan, Freemasons' Hall, Huddersfield.
807—Deserey and Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon.
1248—Barnard, William Institute, Barnard Castle.
1274—Neptune, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
1376—Architect, Dudsbury Hotel, Didsbury.

FRIDAY, 4th JUNE—continued.

R. A. 61—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Halifax.
R. A.—Walton, Masonic Room, Kirkdale.
K.T.—De Lacy, Bull Hotel, Burnley.

SATURDAY, 5th JUNE.

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

R. A. 975—Rose of Denmark, Star and Garter, Kew.

1458—Truth, Royal Archer Inn, Manchester.

IRELAND.

TUESDAY—30—True Blue, Killyleigh, co. Down.
" 171—Duke of Clarence, Dublin.
" 719—St. Albans, Private House, Main-street, Newtownlimavady, Derry.
" 881—Clones, Thompson's Hotel, Clones.
" 935—True Blue, Anne-street, Wexford.
WEDNESDAY—51—Temple, Masonic Rooms, Belfast.
THURSDAY—111—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Belfast.
555—Harmony, Masonic Rooms, Francis-street, Fermoy.
FRIDAY—110—Kilrea, Kilrea, co. Derry.
" 164—Commercial, Masonic Hall, Londonderry.
" 228—Gorey, Gorey.
" 891—St. John's, Town Hall, Enniskillen.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

TUESDAY—5—Canongate and Leith (L. and C.), 96 Constitution-street.
THURSDAY—97—St. James, St. James Hall, Writer's-court.
FRIDAY—291—Celtic of Edinburgh and Leith, Ship Hotel, East Register-street.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Chapter of Old Unions, No. 46.—A Convocation of this Chapter was held on the 18th inst., at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate Street, City. Comps. W. B. Hughes M.P. M.E.Z., J. H. Paul H., Richards J., Stevenson S.E., Risdon S.N., Whitley P.S., Riley Janitor, and P.Z.'s Hotman, N. Bradford, Isaacs, H. P. Dumas, and about twenty members were present. The Chapter was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. The installation of Principals followed and the investiture of officers—viz., Comps. H. Paul Z., Richards H., Ibbetson J., and Stevenson S.E. The Chapter was then closed, and the companions sat down to a very sumptuous banquet, provided by Bro. W. G. Jennings. The M.E.Z. then proposed the usual Loyal and R.A. toasts. The toast of the "Grand Officers" found a very able exponent in Comp. T. Fenn P.Z. The M.E.Z. then proposed the toast of Comp. N. Bradford, the late treasurer, and in eulogistic terms presented him, in the name of the Chapter, with a very elegant service of plate, on his retirement from that office. Comp. Bradford having returned thanks for the valuable gift, the toast of the I.P.Z. followed, also that of the P.Z. Comp. Goldsburgh. The toast of the Visitors was responded to by Bro. Conrad Dumas P.G.D. The Officers' and Janitor's toasts concluded a very agreeable evening.

Caveac Chapter, No. 176.—A Convocation of this Chapter was held on Saturday, at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate Street. Comps. T. Quihampton Z., P. S. Wyman H., G. K. Leman J., who opened the Chapter, assisted by W. M. Goss S.N., W. J. Stride P.S., J. B. Sorrell 1st Asst., J. Baxter Langley 2nd Asst., Thorpe W.M., G. F. Lodge M.C., R. S. Foreman P.Z., C. T. Darey P.Z. Comp. R. H. P. Hooton P.M. and Treasurer 765, and Chapter 192, was elected a joining member. Bros. T. Walton J.W. 157, and R. P. Tebb 1309, were exalted into R.A. Masonry by Comp. M. Scott P.Z. The Chapter was then closed.

St. James's Union Chapter, No. 180.—A Convocation of this Chapter was held on Tuesday, the 25th May, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street. Comps. Hill Z., L. Herf H., J. R. Stacey J., Cameron P.Z. Treasurer, Jackson S.E., Smithett S.N., and P.Z.'s Reed, Stonor, Cameron, W. Watson, H. A. Stacey, Colvill, Farwig, Staden, Pink, Ellis, Kvynett, &c. The Chapter was opened, and the minutes of the former Convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of installation then took place, and Comp. L. Herf Z. elect, and Comp. Stacey was installed H., in a very able and impressive manner, by Comp. Reed P.Z. Comp. Smithett was installed as J., by Comp. W. Watson P.Z. in his usual careful manner. Several candidates were balloted for and accepted. Bro. Parnell, Temple Lodge, No. 101, being in attendance, was duly exalted into R.A. Masonry by Comp. Hill I.P.Z., assisted by the newly exalted H. and J. The officers were invested as follow, viz. Comps. Reed P.Z., S. E. Gallico S.N., W. C. Parsons P.S., Cameron P.Z. Treasurer, Pilling first Assistant, Gillard second Assistant, Gilbert Janitor. The Chapter was then closed until the 4th Tuesday in November. A banquet followed. On the removal of the cloth, the W.M. proposed the usual Loyal, Masonic and Royal Arch Toasts. The M.E.Z., in proposing the toast of the newly exalted companion, regretted the absence of the many brethren who had been accepted, but hoped to see them on a future occasion. The one who had been exalted he, the Z., had known for several years, and he was pleased to see him amongst them. He could assure the companions that he was one of whom the Chapter may be proud. Comp. Parnell, in brief but expressive observations, showed the brethren that he was one that would eventually be a credit to the Chapter. Bros. Swallow No. 77, Allen I.P.Z. 733, and H. M. Levy responded to the toast of the visitors, and each companion paid a just and deserved compliment to the M.E.Z. for his genial presiding and hospitality, also for the Masonic and perfect working of the ceremony of Installation by Comps. Reed and W. Watson, and also by Comps. Hill, Stacey and Smithett for their perfect rendering of the ceremony of exaltation. Comps. Stacey and Smithett returned thanks for the toast of the H. and J. The M.E.Z. then rose, and said he had to perform a very pleasant duty, and that was to present Comp. Hill, in the name of the Chapter, with a P.Z. jewel. He was one on whom it was worthily bestowed. (Cheers.) The

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Companions had seen how on a former occasion he had performed his duties during his year of office, and they had seen how he had performed them on this occasion, and on placing the jewel on his breast he hoped he might live long to wear it, for he was in every respect worthy of it. Comp. Hill I P.Z. returned thanks for the valuable gift, and before resuming his seat said: That although he had received so flattering a testimonial from them, he had a pleasing duty to perform, and that was to propose the toast of the "M.E.Z.," who had been so recently installed, but to judge what he had done in the St. James's Union Lodge, was a credit to himself and satisfaction to the brethren, and the manner he had acquitted himself on his first occupation of the chair showed he was qualified to fill that office. (Cheers.) The M.E.Z. replied, and in the course of his speech hoped, at the expiration of his year of office, that he might say, with pride, that he had given them satisfaction. The M E.Z., in proposing the toast of the "Officers," spoke of the duties which they had performed so perfectly. Comp. W. C. Parsons returned thanks for the officers. Comps. W. C. Parsons P.S., Gallico, Reed P Z S.E., had done their duties satisfactorily to the Chapter, and each and every one was worthy to occupy any position in R.A. Masonry. The Janitor's toast concluded a very agreeable evening, Comps. Gallico, Parsons, J. R. Stacey P.Z., &c., contributing to the harmony.

Lodge of Friendship, No. 206.—An emergency meeting of the above Lodge was held on Friday, the 21st inst., at the Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street. Bros. Waters W.M., A. Ramsey S.W., Taylor J.W., W. Ramsey P.M. Treasurer, J. Ramsey P.M. Secretary, Stephens S.D., Squirrell I.G., and Past Masters Gammon I.P.M., Harrison, &c. The Lodge was opened, and a ballot having on a former meeting been taken for the admission of Captain Boyton (the celebrated perfector of the Life Saving Apparatus), he was duly initiated into the Order by Bro. Gammon I.P.M. in a very perfect manner, while the Captain's attention to the ceremony showed he was fully impressed with it. There being no other business, the Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to slight refreshment. The acting W.M. proposed the usual Loyal, Masonic and other toasts. The W.M. then stated he had to propose, he might say, the toast of the evening, viz.:—"The newly initiated Bro. Captain Boyton"—(cheers)—and in the course of a very excellent speech, adverted to the great services rendered by that gentleman in his efforts to save the lives of his fellow creatures; the thanks of all were due to him, and he wished him every success in his noble undertaking. (Cheers.) Bro. Captain Boyton, on rising, was received with loud and prolonged cheers. After thanking the W.M. and brethren for their kind expressions, he gave a very interesting account of the apparatus, and the success he had met with. He referred to the kind assistance he had received from all quarters, which, in itself, was a great satisfaction, but he never could forget that he had been honoured by a letter from Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen of England—(loud cheers)—he felt proud and honoured by that notice. He had received Her Majesty's commands to send a complete apparatus. He again thanked the W.M. and brethren, and resumed his seat. Various toasts followed, and the brethren separated, after spending a very interesting and enjoyable evening.

Tyrawly Lodge, No. 217.—A meeting was held on the 12th of May, at Ballina. Present—Bros. P. L. Petrie W.M., M. Scott S.W., C. Boyd J.W., J. Beatty S.D., W. Reid J.D., J. E. Edmunds I.G., R. Masse Tyler, J. R. Dudgeon Secretary; Past Masters Bros. J. Gilbert and J. Smith; Visitors Bros. Fitzgerald, Cognohn and M'Nulty. Business transacted—Bro. Captain John Smith was presented with an address, on his leaving this country. Notice of motion, Lodge night be changed from 2nd Wednesday in each month to 2nd Monday. The address to Bro. Smith was signed by all the officers and members present, after which the seal of the Lodge was attached:—"To Captain John Smith P.M. 217. Dear Sir and Brother,—It is with feelings of sincere and deep regret that your brethren, the members of 217, have accepted your resignation; thereby severing a fraternal connection which has subsisted in peace, love and harmony, since your affiliation, a period of seven years. We cannot permit you to depart from amongst us to your far distant home, in New Zealand, without conveying to you our high estimate of your unflinching integrity, unswerving devotion, and unremitting attention to every duty and office which your brethren have either delegated or conferred on you; and we are fully persuaded that the true Masonic zeal which you have evinced in the discharge of the duties of your several offices, and which has included the highest any Lodge could confer, will be as duly appreciated in the land of your adoption as it has been by your brethren of 217. Praying that the omnipresent eye of the Great Architect of the Universe may ever rest on you and your family in love, and that you, Mrs. Smith and children, may safely be brought to your destination, We are, dear sir and brother, yours fraternally, the Officers and Brethren of Masonic Lodge, 217." Brother Smith, in feeling and touching words, replied.

Royal Union Lodge, No. 246.—A meeting was held on 19th May, at the Masonic Hall, Cheltenham. Bros. J. H. H. Howard W.M., E. Haselton S.W., A. Court J.W., J. Bryant S.D., Robertson Steward, Butler I.G., Wiggins Tyler, J. Lake Secretary, W. L. Bain Treasurer; Past Masters Bros. Brooksmith, Forth, Clenck, Ricketts. Business transacted:—Bro. E. Gregory was raised to the sublime degree.

Drogheda Lodge, No. 411.—A regular meeting was held on 13th May, at the Masonic Hall, Drogheda. Present:—Bros. Jeffers W.M., Whitty S.W., Flinn J.W., Glenny S D., Harbinson P.M. (pro tem J.D.), Hannan (Clerk) Chaplain, McCausland I.G., Browne Tyler, P. E. Clarke P.M. H.K.T. Secretary and Treasurer; Past Master Bro. Parsons; Visitors Bros. Horan 77, Thomas 321 Archibald 138, Eager 411. Business transacted:—Bros. Hatch and Carette passed to F.C. degree; Bro. Knagge raised to high and sublime degree. Two new candidates accepted by ballot, one also proposed and seconded. Bro. Secretary brought under discussion the desirability of re-seeking the Royal Arch Warrant, and gave notice of motion on the subject for next regular night of meeting.

New Concord Lodge, No. 813.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held at the Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton, on Thursday, 20th May, Bro. H. J. Gabb W.M. in the chair. Bro. Salisbury P.M. officiated as the S.W. (who was absent through domestic affliction), T. J. Cusworth J.W., R. R. Harper S.D., G. W. Watkinson J.D., I. W. Walisby Org., W. Stead I.G., W. H. Main P.M. Secretary, G. Sinclair Treasurer, and Past Masters Bros. J. Emmans P.M. P.G.P., T. Bartlett I.P.M., Atkins, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Ballots were taken for the admission of Messrs. Bevans and J. Keast, who were initiated by the W.M. in a very impressive manner. Bro. Cusworth, who is a Steward for the Anniversary Festival for the Boys' School, had the sum of ten guineas placed on his list from the funds of the Lodge. It was then proposed that the summer banquet take place at the Alexandra Palace, on 14th July; ladies to be present; also non-Masonic friends. This proposition having been carried, the Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet provided by Bro. H. Gabb, which gave great satisfaction to the brethren and visitors. The usual toasts, both Loyal and Masonic, were given. Bro. J. Emmans P.G.P. responded for the toast of the Grand Officers; Bro. Ainsworth for the toast of the Charities. The toast of the W.M. was proposed and responded to. Bro. T. Bartlett returned thanks for the P.M.'s in his usual genial manner. The toast of the visitors followed, who were Bros. Jackson P.M. 172, Jones 733, Shaw 1471, W. Davies 1259, who severally returned thanks, and paid a very just compliment, not only to the working, but also to the hospitality accorded them. Bro. W. H. Main P.M. Secretary, and Bro. Sinclair returned thanks in their capacities of Secretary and Treasurer. The toasts of the worthy host and hostess, Bro. and Mrs. Gabb, which was duly honoured, concluded a very agreeable evening. Bros. Hubbard, Vernon and Fauequez contributed to the harmony, and Bro. Walisby presided at the piano.

St. Peter's Lodge, No. 1125, Tiverton.—At the meeting on 20th inst. there were present Bros. T. Parkhouse W.M., T. B. Patterson I.P.M., H Davey P.M. as S.W., W. H. Reed jun. J.W., J. Dickinson Chaplain, G. W. Cockrane S.D., W. Bartlett J.D., J. B. Crabb D.C., J. Melhuish and B. Taylor Stewards, W. E. Williams as I.G., A. Andrews Organist, J. Mills P.M. P.G.O. Secretary; Past Master Bro. Reed, and Bros. Partridge, H. Melhuish, Martin and Vaughan. The minutes of the last regular stated Lodge having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Mr. F. E. Pike and Mr. A. Arbery, two candidates for Freemasonry, and found to be unanimous in their favour. Mr. Pike being in attendance, was duly initiated into the mysteries of the 1st degree, the ceremony being most ably performed by the W.M., the musical portion being admirably rendered by Bros. Andrews, H. Melhuish, Williams, Mills, and others. The W.M., on behalf of himself and the brethren of this Lodge who had the priviledge of attending the Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, presented, as a slight memorial of that grand event, a proof copy of Bro. Harty's portrait of our M.W.G.M., remarking that striking and grand as was the spectacle in itself, the thought that most impressed itself on his mind was the proof it gave of the reality and vitality of Freemasonry, that large and yet select assemblage being brought together, not to discuss or decide any great question, but simply to evince their loyalty to the Craft, and to pay homage to the Prince who had so heartily consented to become their head. A vote of thanks to the donors for their acceptable present, proposed by Bro. Partridge, and seconded by P.M. Bro. Reed, terminated the proceedings.

Burdett Coutts Lodge, No. 1278.—At the regular meeting held on 20th May, at Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, there were present Bros. J. G. Harris W.M., W. J. Crutch S.W., W. Toye J.W., C. K. Crouch S.D., J. W. Hill J.D., Marx Gross Steward, W. T. Christian D.C., A. Lazarus I.G., W. Gilchrist Tyler. G. Ward Verry P.M. Secretary, Jas. Terry P.M. and Treasurer. Past Masters Bros. J. Ashbarner and Henry Lloyd. Visitors Bro. W. Stephens W.M. of the Ripon, Heimenhager 1298, and Camhden 901. Three brethren were raised to the third degree, a candidate was proposed for initiation, and the Lodge closed. The brethren then sat down to a cold collation, presided over by the W.M.

Acacia Lodge, No. 1309.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, at the Prince Alfred Hotel, Southall. Bro. F. Walters P.G.P. Middlesex P.M. occupied the chair; C. A. Ferrier S.W., H. J. Webster S.D., J. W. George J.D., H. A. D'Arcy as I.G., W. H. Buttersfield, and several others. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were read and confirmed. Passed Bros. Rev. A. McAuslane, E. Madders, and the Rev. J. Morgan; raised Bros. H. Kenward and E. Searle 1275. Bro. Chas. Horsley, P.P.G. Registrar for Middlesex, initiated Rev. T. W. Cave, John Scott jun. and E. Tickner B.A. The election for W.M. for the ensuing year then took place, and Bro. C. Horsley P.P.G.R. was unanimously elected. Bro. F. Walters P.G.P. Middlesex was elected Treasurer in place of Bro. Sillifant P.M. Bro. Laing P.M. was re-elected Tyler. The Rev. Bro. A. McAuslane kindly consented to preach a charity sermon in aid of the Boys' School. Bro. F. Walters P.G.P. consented to act as Steward for the Boys' School Festival, to be held at the Alexandra Palace, on 7th July. Bro. G. G. Cusworth consented to act as Steward for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution in 1876, and that brother announced his intention to become a Vice President of that Institution. The Installation Meeting will take place on 29th June, at half-past 3 punctually.' The Lodge was then closed. Refreshment followed labour. Among the visitors

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were Bros. W. Hammond P.G.S. Middlesex, W. Shackleton 1326, G. Clark 263, E. Searle 1275.

Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, No. 1507.—A meeting was held on 21st May, at the Metropolitan Club, 269 Pentonville Road. Present:—Bros. Jas. Willing W.M., Yeats S.W., Berrie J.W., Stiles S.D., Scales J.D., Shand I.G.; Past Master Bro. T. A. Adams P.G.P.; Bros. Rapkin, Ormiston, Read and Cox. Business transacted:—Minutes confirmed, Bro. Read initiated, Bro. Rapkin passed, Bro. Ormiston raised.

MASONIC LITERATURE.

From the NEW YORK DISPATCH.

WE have more than once expressed our views in these columns touching the need of the Fraternity in so far as its literature is concerned, and the apparent apathy with which the Craft, as a whole, receive any attempt to supply this acknowledged need. The same conditions existing years ago are still in force, and the need of the Fraternity is relatively just as great as ever, while the indifference of the Craft has, upon the whole, somewhat increased. It seems to be the prevailing idea that once a man has been initiated, he has compassed the whole of Masonry, and that it is idle for him to spend his time in studying what he already knows. Later on, the notion seems to be that there is so much to learn that a single lifetime will not suffice, and so, between the two, the matter drops to the ground, and the labour of the would-be teacher goes for naught.

As an evidence that the foregoing assertions are not mere romancing, and that we are not drawing upon our imagination for facts, we instance the many Masonic journals laid in the cemetery of the literature of Masonry during the past twenty years. We need not call the roll; it is so long that the reader's patience would be exhausted before the names could be mentioned. Some have lasted a few issues, some a year or two, some longer, but in every case the result has been the same. After a brief career, the best as well as the mediocre journals commence crying for patronage, as a traveller in the desert longs for water; marasmus sets in, and death follows with a regularity that can be predicted with unfailing certainty.

So with Masonic libraries. Individuals and associations gather them together with infinite labour and cost; but, then, who uses them, outside of here and there an individual? There are various reasons to be assigned for this unseemly state of affairs. The first is the mistaken notion that Masonry is to be found in the mere ceremonies; that these having been sufficiently witnessed, there is nothing more for it but to seek some other source of amusement; for, to many, it appears that our association has no other attraction than as a means of passing away a portion of one's time agreeably.

That this class of initiates will not read is a matter of course; hence any laboured effort to instruct them is just so much time lost, since the arrows fly over their heads without hitting them, It follows that a Masonic paper devoted to the more abstruse topics of the Fraternity must fail, simply for the reason that it cannot command the sympathy of persons who will not need it. Another reason is to be found in the fact that in almost every instance where it has been proposed or attempted to start a Masonic journal, the element of confidence has largely entered into the calculations of the publishers. As, for instance, A. B. proposes to start a Masonic journal. He says to himself there are so many Masons in this State; if one in ten will subscribe and pay for this paper I can secure the best known talent to write its matter, print it in good style, supply it promptly, and make a moderate living for myself. The first number issues, and the second and third, but in the meantime the subscription list does not fill up, and the publisher's pocket being empty, the publication ceases, and those who have paid their money in good faith are left to whistle for the work due them.

The next time a paper is started these gentlemen quietly count themselves out, and so it happens that in the course of time, a large proportion of the membership having bought and paid for that kind of experience, can not be induced to touch a Masonic publication at any price. To use the common vernacular, this may seem "a little rough," but we can with the utmost confidence appeal to the brethren for the practical truth of our statement.

The consequence is that no man can afford to give his time and the result of his researches to the Craft, because he cannot live on air, and it therefore loses the unspeakable benefit it would receive from being adequately represented in the current journalism of the day. We have been for about a quarter of a century attached from personal predilection to the cause of Masonic journalism, and during that time have witnessed many unsuccessful efforts in this direction, while we have never known but one marked success, and that is the journal now in the hands of the reader, to wit, the New York *Dispatch*. Its success is not due to any special literary merit of its editor and contributors, but to the fact that it recognises current events as they are, and treats Masonic topics from an every-day point of view; never, however, losing sight of the hope that ultimately a taste may be formed among the brethren for higher studies, calling out the services of minds enriched by years of study and investigation, and that from its efforts there may yet grow a place in literature to be worthily filled in the name and for the benefit of Freemasonry.

Just at present, if we may judge by the mortality among the magazines, the time cannot be long before we shall have to bear the whole weight of publicly espousing the cause of the Institution. We do not by any means covet the honour, but we shall not shrink from the responsibility, and our flag will be to the fore till the last gun fires. Meanwhile we urge upon the brethren to reflect upon the question whether they are doing their whole duty to themselves and to the society by their failure to give an adequate support to the literature of the Craft? Whether they ought not each, according to his means, to contribute toward the formation of such public Masonic opinion, as will place our literature on a firm and enduring basis, and thus broaden and deepen the foundations of Masonry.

A RELIC OF OLD TIMES.—Mr. Samuel L. Smedly, Chief Engineer and Surveyor of the city, has presented to the R.W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania Free and Accepted Masons, a copper plate, which was laid with Masonic ceremonies under the corner-stone of the Upper Ferry or "Lancaster—Schuylkill Bridge," on April 28, 1812. The bridge was burned April 1, 1838, and the wire suspension bridge which is now being replaced by a new bridge, was built to take its place. The copper plate was found July 23, 1874, on the north-west corner of the east abutment while the old foundations were being removed, preparatory to building the new abutments of Fairmount bridge. Mr. Smedly says, in his letter to Charles E. Meyer, Esq., Chairman of the Library Committee of Masons; "As a lover of ancient relics, I can fully appreciate your desire, as members of an Order of such great antiquity, to have among your archives mementoes of the early work of the Fraternity in this country, where such relics are of necessity so very rare. As the museum is at times open to visitors, so that the public which feels a laudable interest in our early local history will have the opportunity of seeing it, it affords me great pleasure to present to the R.W Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania Free and Accepted Masons, this interesting relic for preservation in the museum." The plate is twelve by twelve inches, and about one-sixteenth of an inch thick. It bears two inscriptions, as follows: "This bridge was founded and erected in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and twelve, under the supervision of the following Board of Managers, viz.: Phillip Wager, President; Cadwalader Evans, John Britton, Martin Dubbs, Abraham Sheridan, Samuel Breck, Samuel Richards, and Louis Wernway, architect." "In the name of Almighty God, in the thirty-sixth year of American Independence and of Masonry 5812, Jonathan Bayard Smith R.W.P. Grand Master of Masons, attended by the R.W.D.G. Master, Peter Le Barber Duplisis, and the Grand Officers, the Hon'b'e James Milnor being R.W.G. Master of the State of Pennsylvania, and a numerous assemblage of Brethren, laid the first stone of this bridge on the 28th day of April, A.D. 1812, which may God prosper." Since the plate was found, another inscription, giving the date of its finding and the fact of its presentation as above, has been added to this plate.—*The Public Ledger.*

A NEW USE FOR THE BAGPIPES.—A young, intelligent corporal of the 78th Highlanders, writing from Cawnpore, (date, end of Sept.) to his friends in Glasgow, says that while on the March they met the sepoys, and had an engagement with them near the Ganges. While the engagement was going on, it fell to be his duty, in company with another soldier, to carry a Highland piper, who had been wounded in the leg, to the rear. They hoisted him shoulder-high, and were proceeding on their way, when, to their utter astonishment, they saw a sepoy on horseback coming in their direction, with his sword drawn. The piper, after going through the ordinary manœuvres of loading a gun, lifted the longest shank of his pipes to his shoulder, and pointed it at the sepoy's head. No sooner had he done this, than the sepoy turned tail and ran off.—*British Battles by Land and Sea.*

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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. I.—No. 23. SATURDAY, 5th JUNE 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

ANOTHER ATTACK ON FREEMASONRY.

THE *Dublin Freeman's Journal*, which is regarded as the leading Ultramontane organ of the Catholic party in Ireland, has opened fire from its very heaviest artillery upon Freemasonry. A leader in a recent issue is devoted to the very Christian work of cursing us, and we are constrained to confess that the *Freeman's Journal* has performed its allotted task gracefully, vigorously, and with full command of the ecclesiastical vocabulary of abuse. We are indeed disposed to think that it has fired its heavy ordnance at random, and without due inquiry into the "facts" which have excited its ire; but it may console itself with the reflection that a curse or two, more or less, can do no harm to our Order, which is already suffering under the weight of the heavy displeasure of the Holy Father. A few centuries since it was regarded as a Christian duty to anathematise and plunder the Children of Israel, and in these enlightened days, when the Jew has asserted his right to breathe the air of heaven unmolested, a section of the great Christian community appears to imagine that Freemasonry is a fitting target for the overflowing wrath of the Church. We do not complain of misrepresentation, and we are certainly not disposed to indulge in any outburst of anger against our opponent. We desire to speak of Rome and its religion with all due respect, and we are not unmindful of the fact that many zealous and active Masons are members of the Roman Catholic communion. We do not, however, think the *Freeman's Journal* deserves much quarter at our hands. Had its diatribe been spoken by an ecclesiastic from the pulpit, we might have passed it by with feelings of pity and indifference; but a public writer has no coward's castle into which he can retreat after the perpetration of an outrage against good taste, and we venture, therefore, to say a few words in reply to this, the latest and least justifiable attack upon our Order. It seems that a body of Catholics, in the old city Ghent, in a solemn procession in the streets, were assailed by a mob, who saluted them with stones and mud. Women and children were jostled, trampled upon, and, according to the writer in the *Freeman's Journal*, whose account of the affair is somewhat obscure, a life was lost in the scuffle. Every peaceful person, of whatever creed, will at once admit that the riot was most disgraceful, and we have no hesitation in saying that the rioters are deserving of the most severe punishment. Thus far, we cordially go with the *Freeman's Journal*, but when that bitter and reckless print charges the Freemasons with the whole responsibility for the outrage, we, in common justice, demand the proofs for the assertion. Our opponent declares that the Freemasons of Belgium cherish the most bitter hatred of the Catholic religion, and their organs in the press have been ceaseless in their efforts to stir up the popular passions against it. It does not, however, afford us a particle of evidence in justification of this serious charge. Following the bad example of its great head, the Catholic print speaks *ex cathedra*, and no doubt lays claim to a portion, at least, of the immunity which is supposed to be the privilege of the Pope. We, however, are not by any means disposed to take its statements upon trust. We insist in the first place that, in common justice, it should tell us the names of the journals which have endeavoured to stir up sectarian strife, and that it should afford ample proof of their connection with the Masonic fraternity. Until it does this, we shall be justified in saying that its charge against the Order has merely been prompted by blind hatred, or that it has humbly obeyed the orders of its spiritual chiefs, and has abused us officially, just as a hired advocate attempts to blacken the character of his opponent. We are fully aware of the lamentable state of religious parties in Belgium. But we venture to say, without fear of refutation, that the opposition which has been there excited in some quarters to the Catholic Church has been caused solely by the unwise zeal of Churchmen themselves. In no country on the Continent do religious contentions run higher, and if the claims of the Church of Rome in Belgium were not met by vigorous opposition, they would become too monstrous to be consistent with the maintenance of the existing civil government. The Belgian Ultramontanes have gone mad in the cause of the Church, and they have only themselves to thank for the spirit of persecution which they have awakened. We deny that the Freemasons have degraded the Order into an engine for the dissemination of political or anti-religious ideas. It is pledged to neutrality in these important particulars; and, until we hear good evidence to the contrary, we shall maintain that the *Freeman's Journal* has turned its guns upon us merely because its spiritual fugle-man has given the word of command. It declares that "it is useless to seek elsewhere than in this secret, oath-bound, anathematised institution the origin of these infamous excesses. The Belgian Masons claim them as glories for the Order, and point to them as evidences of the zeal with which they carry out the ordinances of the Brotherhood." We demand proofs for this statement. If it is true the proofs must be accessible. What Masonic print has ventured to give utterance to such disgraceful sentiments? The *Freeman's Journal* either has the evidence in its possession, or it has not. If it can give us chapter and verse in support of this charge it is most certainly bound to do so, and if it cannot, then we, in turn, charge it with having deliberately, and for mere party purposes, given utterance to statements which it knows are untrue. The very quotation with which, in the interests of truth, we have been compelled to sully our columns, contains its own refutation. The ordinances of the brotherhood are diametrically opposed to religious persecution, and if any Mason has dared to maintain the contrary, he has ventured upon a deliberate untruth. But we do not, for one moment, believe that any of our continental brethren could so far forget themselves as to associate the Order with sectarian strife. Its enemies, for purposes of their own, find it convenient to rank Masons on the side of those who are hostile to the claims of Rome, and no argument or assertion of ours could convince an Ultramontane that Masons, as such, can have no opinions in reference to the grave questions which are now convulsing religious society. The *Freeman's Journal* may, possibly, still maintain the accuracy of its charges, in defiance of fact, and regardless of such a sublunary trifle as evidence, but if it fails to substantiate its recent indictment we shall hold that it is self-convicted of having wilfully sacrificed truth in the supposed interests of religion.

FREEMASONRY IN INDIA.

THE earliest mention of the Craft in India is in the year 1728-9, when the then Grand Master, Viscount Kingston, nominated Bro. George Pomfret to be the first Provincial Grand Master of Bengal, where, according to Thory, "*il* (Pomfret) *fonda une Loge*," and where, as Preston

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points out, Masonry "has since made such rapid progress, that within these few years, upwards of fifty Lodges have been constituted there, eleven of which are now held in Bengal." Lawrie states briefly:—"In the year 1729, Free Masonry was introduced into the East Indies, and in a short time after a Provincial Grand Master was appointed to superintend the Lodges in that quarter." Captain Smith, however, puts the date later. He writes "The first modern lodge of free-masons was established by a patent from *England*, in Bengal, A.D. 1740. There are" (i.e. in the year 1783) "besides, several lodges in *Bengal*, *Madras*, *Bombay*, *Bencoolen*, *Fort George*, *Fort Marlborough*, in the *East Indies*, *Batavia*, *Ceylon*, *Calcutta*, *Chandanagore*, *Patna*, *Burdwan*, *Dacca*, *Maxadavid*, *&c.* From the first constitution granted to form a lodge at *Bengal in Asia*, *Anno* 1740, Masonry has flourished in that extensive grand division of the globe in a very extraordinary manner, principally under the authority of the Grand Lodge of England, some few under that of *France*, and several subject to Holland." He then adds, "The great harmony, good behaviour, and rectitude of life amongst the brethren, has induced some of the mighty princes of the East to become *free-masons*; for at a quarterly communication, held at Free-Masons' Hall on the 5th day of *Feb.* 1777, brother *Graham*, from the lodge of *Trichinopoly*, near *Madrass*, reported that his highness *Omdit-al-Omrah Bahaudre*, eldest son of the *Nabob* of the *Carnatic*, had been initiated into Masonry at *Trichinopoly*, and possessed a great veneration for the society." Accordingly a congratulatory letter was sent to his Highness by the hands of Sir John Day, Advocate-General, together with a blue apron, elegantly decorated, and a copy of the "Book of Constitutions." Early in 1780 an answer was received from his Highness, written in the Persian language, and inclosed in a cover of cloth of gold. The translation of this letter is as follows:—

"To the Right Worshipful His Grace the Duke of Manchester, Grand Master of the Illustrious and Benevolent Society of Free and Accepted Masons under the Constitution of England, and the Great Lodge thereof.

"Much honoured Sir and Brethren.

"An early knowledge and participation of the benefits arising to our house from its intimate union of councils and interests with the British nation; and a deep veneration for the laws, constitution, and manners of the latter, have, for many years of my life, led me to seize any opportunity of drawing the ties between us still closer and closer.

"By the accounts which have reached me of the principles and practices of your Fraternity, nothing can be more pleasing to the Sovereign Ruler of the Universe, and whom we all, though in different ways, adore, or more honourable to his creatures; for they stand upon the broad basis of indiscriminate and universal benevolence.

"Under this conviction, I had long wished to be admitted of your Fraternity; and now that I am initiated, I consider the title of an English Mason as one of the most honourable that I possess; for it is at once a cement of the friendship between your nation and me, the friend of mankind.

"I have received from the Advocate-General of Bengal, Sir John Day, the very acceptable mark of affection and esteem with which you have favoured me; it has been presented with every circumstance of deference and respect that the situation of things here and the temper of the times would admit of; and I do assure your Grace, and the Brethren at large, that he has done ample justice to the commission you have confided to him, and has executed it in such a manner as to do honour to himself and me.

"I shall avail myself of a proper opportunity to convince your Grace and the rest of the Brethren, that Omdit-al-Omrah is not an unfeeling Brother, or heedless of the precepts he has imbibed; and that, while he testifies his love and esteem for his Brethren, by strengthening the bonds of humanity, he means to minister to the wants of the distressed.

"May the common Father of All, the one Omnipotent and merciful God, take you into His Holy Keeping; and give you health, peace, and length of years, prays your highly honoured and affectionate Brother,

"OMDIT-AL-OMRAH BAHAUDRE."

About this time the divisions which had arisen in England and extended to India were allayed, Lodge No. 152 styling themselves Ancient York Masons, voluntarily surrendering their warrant. Thus a union was happily accomplished, of which Brigadier General Horne, by whose intervention the Union had been mainly brought about, was elected Prov. Grand Master. On 7th October 1787, in accordance with a proposal regularly submitted to this G.L., a new Lodge, "Perfect Unanimity, No. 1,"—No. 150 on roll of Lodges under the G.L. of England—was consecrated at Madras, in honour of this auspicious event; Bro. Colly Lyons Lucas being subsequently installed W.M. The career of the brotherhood has been throughout a most prosperous one, and there now exist in India the following District Grand Lodges: Bengal, Bombay, British Burmah, Madras, and Punjab, of the proceedings of two of which, the Punjab and Burmah District Grand Lodges, we recently gave some account. The former of these comprises 17 Lodges, with 463 subscribing members, the latter seven, with 187 members.

THE QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION OF GRAND LODGE.

THE Quarterly Communication was held on Wednesday, the 2nd instant, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street. The Temple was crowded in every part, many brethren being under the impression H.R.H. the Most Worshipful Grand Master would be present. The magnificent carpet used at the Albert Hall was laid down, and produced a charming effect. The place of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales was supplied by Lord Skelmersdale the Deputy Grand Master; the Marquis of Hamilton being in his position of Grand Senior Warden, and Colonel Whitwell being in the place of the Lord Mayor of London as Junior Grand Warden. Amongst the Grand Officers on the dais, we noticed Bros. Dr. Hamilton, Grand Master of Jamaica; Hugh Sandeman, District Grand Master for Bengal; J. Smith, W. Ough, T. Cubitt, A. E. J. M'Intyre, Grand Registrar; C. A. Cottebrune, T. Ball, L. Rawson, District Grand Master for China; R. J. Spiers, Provincial Deputy Grand Master for Oxfordshire; W. C. Parsons, J. Willing jun., W. Smith, the Rev. Sir J. W. Hayes, H. Massey, Thompson, Sir Albert Woods, Garter; Thomas Fenn, E. H. Hunt, J. C. Parkinson, Brackstone Baker, C. Nash, H. Garrod, Sir Michael Costa, J. Constable, the Rev. C. J. Martyn, J. Ross, J. B. Monckton, A. L. Leins, Dr. Jabez Hogg, J. Abrahams, Barnett, John Symonds, J. Belleby, Dr. Woodman, W. Mann, the Rev. Spencer Robert Wigram, J. L. Thomas, H. M. Levy, &c. Grand Lodge was duly opened, and Bro. J. Hervey G.S. read the minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 3rd March; also the minutes of the Grand Festival of the 28th April, which were confirmed. Lord Skelmersdale proposed a vote of thanks to the committee appointed by the Board of General Purposes to carry out the arrangements for the installation of the Prince of Wales on the 28th of April, to Bros. Sir Albert Woods (Garter), and Thos. Fenn. In doing so he said: Brethren, it is now my pleasing duty to propose to you three resolutions; but before doing so I must express to you the regret his Royal Highness the Grand Master wished me to convey to you at not being able to be present on this occasion. He hopes to be able to attend more regularly in the future. I have to regret that the Pro-Grand Master is not here to-night; but we all know how great a task it was for him to perform that he undertook on the 28th of April, and how little we ought to expect from him at present. The Grand Master wished me also to express to you his cordial assent to the resolutions which I am about to propose to you. I need hardly dilate on them, for I think all who were present on the 28th of April must have expressed astonishment at the admirable way in which all the arrangements were carried out. (Hear, hear.) I will not detain you by saying more on the subject, for I am sure you will endorse everything that has been said in public and in private. I will read the resolutions which I shall propose to you.

That the cordial thanks of the Grand Lodge are due, and are hereby given to Bro. John B. Monckton, the President, and the members of the Committee appointed by the Board of General Purposes, to assist the Grand Director of Ceremonies, for their successful exertions in carrying out the arrangements for the Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Most Worshipful Grand Master, at the Royal Albert Hall, on the 28th of April last, and to the Grand Secretary and the Executive generally, for their willing and able assistance on the occasion.

That the best and most cordial thanks of this Grand Lodge are eminently due, and are hereby given, to Brother Sir Albert Woods (Garter) P.G.W., Grand Director of Ceremonies, for the most able manner in which he conceived and carried out the details of the ceremony of Installation of H.R.H. the Most Worshipful Grand Master, at the Royal Albert Hall, on the 28th April 1875.

That the cordial thanks of this Grand Lodge are due, and are hereby given, to Brother Thomas Fenn, Past Grand Deacon, for the very able manner in which he carried out the duties of superintending the arrangements relating to the admission and seating of the brethren on the occasion of the Installation of H.R.H. the Most Worshipful Grand Master, at the Royal Albert Hall, on the 28th of April 1875, and for his indefatigable exertions in the discharge of that duty.

The election of members of the Colonial Board then took

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place. Those brethren who were nominated on the 19th of May, viz. Bros. Brackstone Baker 21, J. Brett 177, J. M. Case 1, H. Gruning 197, J. G. Marsh 28, W. J. Nettleship 14, and Samuel Poynter 1491, were duly elected.

The election of members for the Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons resulted as follows:—Bros. J. Brett 177, C. A. Cottebrune 733, J. A. Farnfield 256, C. Hogard 205, H. M. Levy 188, J. G. Stevens 554, A. H. Tattershall 140, H. G. Warren 173, and T. M. White 21.

The report of the Lodge of Benevolence for the last quarter was read. After the discussion of other matters, Grand Lodge was formally closed.

Grand Lodge being closed before the scrutineers made their return as to the result of the election of brethren to serve on the Board of General Purposes, we have pleasure in stating that the undermentioned brethren were elected, viz., Bros. D. Betts 1351, Jas. Forrester 222, N. B. Headon 1426, S. Poynter 1491, Griffiths Smith 569, W. Stephens 1489, A. S. Tomkins 822, W. T. Wood 1159, as Masters; and Past Masters Bros. S. G. Grady 14, H. C. Levander 507, P. De Lande Long 114, Edwin March 99, T. W. White 21, and Erasmus Wilson 1464.

List of Lodges for which Warrants have been granted by the M.W Grand Master since the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge.

No. 1536.—United Military Lodge, Plumstead, Kent.
1537.—St. Peter Westminster Lodge, Westminster.
1538.—St. Martins-le-Grand Lodge, Basinghall Street.
1539.—Surrey Masonic Hall Lodge, Camberwell.
1540.—Chancer Lodge, Southwark.
1541.—Alexandra Palace Lodge, Muswell Hill.
1542.—Legiolium Lodge, Castleford, Yorks.
1543.—Rosslyn Lodge, Dunmow, Essex.
1544.—Mount Edgcumbe Lodge, Camborne, Cornwall.
1545.—Baildon Lodge, Baildon, Yorks.
1546.—Charters Towers Lodge, Charters Towers, Queensland.
1547.—Liverpool Lodge, Liverpool.
1548.—Britannia Lodge, Wellington, South Africa.
1549.—Abercorn Lodge, Great Stanmore, Middlesex.
1550.—Lodge of Prudence, Plymouth.

MASONIC FUNERAL AT BURY, LANCASHIRE.

DURING the past few weeks the brethren in Bury have sustained a series of shocks, the impression of which are likely to have a prolonged abiding place in their memories. The first of these melancholy sensations consisted in the lamentable death of Brother Thomas Haworth, a young, but promising member of Lodge of Relief, 42, who was one of the passengers by the ill-fated London steamer Cadiz. Brother Haworth, who was rapidly scoring successes so far as human prosperity may be said to be concerned, had only a few months back entered into a lucrative engagement with Messrs. McCallum, Cannon Street, London, in connection with the opening out of some extensive iron stone mines in Galicia, Spain, and he was on his way back to the mother country to accomplish certain preliminaries, when he met with a watery grave. A shock of a still more painful nature was given to the Craft by the loss of Brother Robert Wright O'Neil (aged 28), the W.M. of the Prince of Wales Lodge, 1012, by whose untimely death the brethren have lost a most promising brother, both in Arch and Craft. Although so young a Mason, Bro. O'Neil had shown himself expert in the mastership of his Lodge. His death occurred under most lamentable circumstances. Exceedingly fond of the sea, it had for years been his wont to engage in yachting excursions, and on Thursday, in Whit-week, he set sail from Fleetwood, with three companions, in as trim a yacht as ever raised an anchor, from the Ferry slip. It was his design to sail to Piel, the Isle of Man, and Portrush in Ireland, but when only some six miles out from Fleetwood, he and a Mr. R. Battersby, also of Bury, were overbalanced by a lurch of the boat, and thrown into the sea. Being hampered by heavy mackintoshes and stout boots, they sank before the yacht could be brought round to them. Bro. O'Neil's corpse was washed up on the Ulverston sands, two days afterwards, and his remains were interred at the Bury cemetery, on Wednesday, the 26th of May. About 120 members of the Craft attended the funeral, and the following Masons acted as carriers:—Henry Maiden P. Pro. G.S.B. East Lancashire; Past Masters John Halliwell, J. R. Fletcher, and J. Smethurst, and Brothers Lawrence, Stead (Ramsbottom), Nicholas, Worsley (Haslingden); Alfred Hopkinson, and Harry Woodcock. Bro. Lawrence Booth P.P.G.S.B. East Lancashire 1253, acted as Director of Ceremonies.

On the way back from the cemetery, an event occurred which served to doubly darken the gloom which had already fallen on the local Craft. Bro. John Smith Redfern P.P.G.P. East Lancashire, of Lodge Relief 42, complained of a pain in his side when walking on Manchester-road with the general body of brethren, and Bro. Fred. Anderton pressed him to partake of a stimulant in his residence adjoining. This Bro. Redfern declined, and continued homeward; a few hundred yards further on, he and Bro. Anderton called at the Knowsley Hotel, where Bro. Redfern rang for a glass of whiskey each, but before he had time to partake of the spirit he swooned away, and died almost immediately in Bro. Anderton's arms. He had suffered somewhat from heart disease these last few years, and Dr. Barr, who was called into the Knowsley Hotel—too late, however, to be of any avail,—certified that death occurred from syncope, probably induced by over exertion in the procession. Bro. Redfern, who was in his 68th year, had been a Mason forty-seven years, and was the oldest craftsman in the whole borough. Forty years ago he was W.M. of Lodge 42. In his death the brethren have sustained a loss which cannot easily be repaired. Of all who sat down to the post-prandial repast at the Albion Hotel on Thursday evening in Whit-week, not one was more decorously jovial than this patriarchal brother, and the rendering of his favourite song:—"Let Masons' fame resound," gave little indication that the Angel of Death was hovering so closely about his path. One of his sons, who had been proposed at the previous meeting, was initiated the same evening, and the writer of this notice had the honour of being hailed across the Masonic Rubicon by late Bro. Redfern, the same evening. And after all, it was a seemly leave-taking of the Craft, the witnessing of the welcoming of his son into the ranks of which he himself was so honourable a member, immediately followed by what proved to be a final Masonic creation at his own venerable hands.

The interment of Bro. Redfern's remains took place on Saturday afternoon, 29th May, and a dispensation having been procured from Bro. Col. Le G. N. Starkie R.W. Pro. G.M. East Lancashire for the attendance of the brethren in regalia, and the observance of due Masonic honours on the occasion, the event proved no less interesting to the various local Lodges than it was novel and attractive to the general public. The brethren, 210 strong, including members from 22 Lodges, mustered at the Albion Hotel, and, after forming in processional order, they proceeded to their deceased brother's late residence, where they took precedence of the hearse and mourning coaches, and marched to All Saints' Church, Elton, the place of burial. The streets were thronged with thousand of spectators; in fact, from the point of starting to the entrance gates of the church, the processional body was flanked by serried lines of sight seers. At several business houses, on and near the line of route, the shutters and blinds were disposed in mourning fashion. The order of the procession was as follows:

Visiting Brethren from Manchester, Bolton, Rochdale, Bacup, Haslingden, Newchurch, Stoneclough, Middleton, Heywood, Radcliffe, Whitefield, Whitworth and other towns.

Egerton Lodge, Bury	No.	1,392
Prince of Wales Lodge, Bury	„	1,012
St. John's Lodge, Bury	„	191
Prince Edwin Lodge, Bury	„	128
Relief Lodge, Bury	„	42

Royal Arch Chapter.

Brethren of Provincial Grand Lodge of East Lancashire, viz., Bros. the Rev. J. B. Phillips 274, P. Prov. Grand Chaplain; Frederic Anderton Lodge 42, Henry Maiden 1012, Lawrence Booth 1253, J. M. Whitehead 1012, and W. Barlow 934, P. Prov. Grand Sword Bearers; Marshall Taylor 344, P.P.G.P., William Roberts 298 (Rochdale) P.P.G.P., John Taylor 286 (Bacup) P.G.P., Albert Wolstenholme 266 Asst. P.G.P.

Four carriers THE HEARSE Four carriers

Four mourning coaches

containing the widow, children, and relatives of the deceased; and also (in the last coach) Mr. John O'Neil, Brother George O'Neil W.M. St. John's Lodge No. 191,—the father and brother of late Brother R. W. O'Neil—and Mr. William Fairbrother, chairman of the Bury Improvement Commissioners, by which body the late Bro. Redfern was employed for ten or twelve years immediately before his death, as borough meat inspector.

Upon the arrival of the mournful cortège at the entrance to the churchyard, the brethren filed to either side of the avenue leading to the sacred edifice, and there, with bared heads, awaited the passage of the corpse, which was borne by Brothers Warwick Wood W.M. 128, Richard Pilkington W.M. 1392, Edmund Whittam, Samuel Greenhalgh, John Atherton, James Cass, Joseph Place, and Robert Carter. As the funeral party entered the church, Bro. J. Randle Fletcher P.M. 191 discoursed the plaintive strains of a funeral march (Mendelssohn) on the organ. The general body of brethren becoming seated, Bro. Phillips led the service for the dead, the 90th Psalm being chanted by a body of surpliced choristers made up from the choirs of All Saints' and the Parish Church, and among whom were several members of the Craft. While the corpse was being borne from the church, Bro. Randle Fletcher played the grand old "Dead March in Saul." The scene was awfully impressive at this point, and no apology need be offered for tear-dimmed eyes and moistened cheeks. The corpse was deposited in a newly-built vault on the western side of the church, the choristers giving the responses incidental to the remaining portion of the burial service. This concluded, and the chief mourners moved away, the brethren were formed in more exact circle around the grave, and at the signal of the P. Prov. Grand Chaplain, they joined in a silent parting salute to the lamented brother whom the Great Architect had been pleased to call hence. The brethren afterwards re-formed in procession, followed the hearse and mourning coaches into town, and filed off at Haymarket-street to the Albion Hotel, where suitable refreshments were provided in the concert hall by the host, Bro. A. Lord.

It would be unbecoming to close our report without making mention of the services rendered by Bro. Robert Whittaker, Lodges 359 and 678, P. Prov. G. Director of Ceremonies, East Lancashire, who was ably assisted by Bros. Harry Grundy P.M. (acting for Bro. Edmund Eccles W.M. 42, whose state of health would not permit him to exercise in very

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active duty), and Thos. Carter S.D., Thomas Barker J.D., and Samuel Mosley I.G., all of Lodge 42. Bro. J. W. Kenyon P.M. 42 was the undertaker, and efficiently discharged the duties of his office.

It should also be stated that the costly brass furniture of the coffin, which was of polished oak, was given by Mr. Joseph Downham, ironmonger, Fleet Street, Bury, a non Mason, but an intimate friend of late Bro. Redfern. The name of the deceased, on the brass shield, was surmounted by graven Masonic emblems, and above and below the shield was polished brasswork, fashioned in cruciform style. There was also laid on the lid a beautiful wreath of flowers, the gift of Bro. Geo. O'Neil, and a rare collection of flowers, emblematically arranged, the gift of Bro. J. M. Whitehead.

On Sunday morning a funeral sermon was preached at All Saints Church by the Rev. E. Westerman, the Vicar, who chose for his text the 11th verse of the 4th chapter of the 1st general epistle of St. John, "Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another." The preacher delivered an able discourse on the great Christian duties of charity and love. Several members of the O'Neil and Redfern families were present, as were a number of the brethren. Bro. J. Randle Fletcher officiated as organist, playing a funeral march as an opening voluntary and the "Dead March" at the close. The hymns chosen for the occasion were 170, "Thy Will be Done;" 179, "Jesu, Lover of My Soul," and 306, "Christ is our Corner Stone," from Hymns Ancient and Modern.

FROM SHUTE TO SIDBURY.

TEN MILES' PILGRIMAGE THROUGH AN EAST DEVONSHIRE LANE, AND NOTES THEREON.

From *Pulman's Weekly News and Advertiser*, of 25th May.

SIDBURY church exhibits evidence of great antiquity, bearing chiefly the well recognised features of Norman and Early English construction. The tower is of Norman origin, and though thoroughly true in outline and much of detail, yet it has a strange new aspect, this, in part, probably from recent touchings up, and also the circumstance of a story current in the parish that a large portion of the fabric, inclusive it may be of the tower, was re-built about Cromwell's time, the which, if correct, and an idea we shall moot by and bye as to who its re-builder was, will, perhaps, give a clue to the man and account for the rather unusual fact of its having been re-built so carefully in accordance with the original design in those boisterous days.

A glance over the tower doorway shows us two figures life size, in circular headed niches, which, for antiquity, we take to be second to none in the county, while for freshness and sharpness of appearance they are marvellous, considering they must have been sculptured seven centuries ago. But their good preservation, we are told, was due to the fact that they had been previously carefully plastered over (Cromwellian care, we opine) and only exposed again to view recently. One is a figure of St. Peter with the keys and a book. He is vested as a priest, with chasuble and stone. The other, probably intended for Adam, is a man with streaming hair and beard. He wears a long robe and holds a label in his hand, but the legend is gone.

The south porch is finely groined and flanked by turrets. This, of Perpendicular date, and both side aisles appear to have been added about the same time. The chancel is Early English, or transitional from Norman, and there is a breadth of diapered panels across the east end under the chancel window, outside.

But what tomb is this, of comparatively late date, and evidently inserted in the south chancel wall on the outside? It occupies the olden place of honour, assigned in earlier times only to such persons as had been the patrons or benefactors of the fabric. The shape of the tomb, too, and the depressed arch above it, all preserves the type of a bygone age, and looks like the lingering remembrance of some one who had been acquainted with and had a love for this ancient form of sepulchre. A square stone in front had once commemorated its occupant, but after much patience all we could make out was J. S. and 16—, the remainder having been worn away by the fraying heels of succeeding generations of little boys who appear to have made this coign of vantage a place of especial resort, two of their confraternity having darted off like scared birds at our approach.

A survey of the interior of the fabric is found very much a reflex of its outside, the three styles of Norman, Early English, and Perpendicular being fully represented, but all enhanced with the indescribable charm (now fast disappearing) of an old untouched church, where there are many things left for the curious mind to investigate, which still bear the sacred untouched traces of other days and undesecrated, as yet, from having been furbished up to order by unceremonious unfeeling hands, until—such is too often the case—these treasures of the past are literally things neither new nor old.

The basement story of the tower is groined, and four characteristic Norman corbels support the ribs. The side aisles are of late Perpendicular construction and ordinary character, but the arches separating them from the transept are of singular richness and unique in their ornamentation as far as our experience informs us. They rise from foliaged brackets, and the central compartment of the arch all up round inside the lateral mouldings is occupied by a beautiful course of flowers and leaves deeply sculptured and under cut, almost the entire width of the arch, that in the north aisle finishing at the apex with a priest or angel. It has a very rich effect, which would be much enhanced if the thick coating of whitewash that now covers them was removed.

In the chancel are sundry memorials of former residents in the parish, inclusive of the tablet to the members of the Huyshe family who rest in the vault of their ancestors beneath the pavement.

We were on the point of leaving the church when a suspicious looking tablet, at some height from the ground, and in the extreme corner of the south chancel wall, arrested our attention. After a careful survey of its dark surface we succeeded in deciphering and arranging its inscription, which was scattered over it without punctuation or division to aid the sense.

An epitaph upon ye life and death of John Stone, Freemason, who departed this life 1st January, 1617.

On our great corner stone, this *Stone* relyed,
For blessing to his building, loving most
To build God's temple, in which workes he dyed,
And lyved the temple of the Holy Ghost,
In whose loved lyfe is proved an honest fame,
God can of *stones* raise seed to Abraham.

Here was apparently a genuine antiquarian find. An inscription to a Freemason, and the date 1617, the very oldest we have yet seen, and we rub our initiated eyes with delight as we spell out the quaint orthography which embodies the grand meaning of our ancient brother's epitaph. Here, too, we solve the riddle of the tomb in the wall outside, for beneath it, undoubtedly, the dust of the true old craftsman reposes. And with it comes also the association with him of the re-building of the church in Cromwell's days, or a few years before, and the strong probability that he was the man who superintended it, doubtless with jealous care and scrupulous exactness of re-placement as far as his knowledge went, and the final issue that he either lost his life during the work, from some accident, or died peaceably during its progress, as recorded on the tablet, "In which workes he dyed,"—and that hence, evidently owing to some special event or circumstance of the sort, his body was entombed in an honourable position under the very wall of the fabric itself. Strange conjunction of circumstances, too, even here,—for close adjoining is the burial-place of the ancient family of Huyshe, whose present distinguished representative is the honoured and valued Grand Master of the Province.

Peace to thy dust, O venerable brother of the past! for thou sleepest well. Whether the secret of thy history be such as we have divined "to point the moral or adorn the tale" we have been spinning, matters not. The earthly mystery of inextinguishable brotherhood still glimmers in thy ashes, though in thee now that wondrous bond is perfected, as thou standest approved in thy obligation, a spiritual temple at the right hand of the Great Architect of the Universe.

THE FREEMASON'S MESSAGE.

Where should the craftsman sleep,
Where?
Close to the corner keep,
In the foundation deep,—
There.
List to those well-set stones,
Gray,
Comes there no message tones
From the old workman's bones,
Say?
"I loved my calling true,
So.
Here lies the path for you,
To excel, still pursue,—
Go.
In my own works unshrined,—
Ye,
Who would be kept in mind,
Can ye aught fitter find?
See.
But while below you roam,
Nigh,—
Raising earth's fragile dome,
Found thou thy heavenly home,
High.
Reared on the true, the just,
All,—
Let such embalm thy dust,
All else mouldering must
Fall.
So dwell a polished stone,
Here,—
Then, to one lively grown,
Deck the Great Builder's throne,
There!"

NOTE.—The old Freemason sepulchred at Sidbury appears to have been one of a celebrated family of that name equally famous both as material and speculative Masons, and appear to have been undoubtedly originally Devonshire people. The name "Wandbury" mentioned in the following extract is difficult to identify, but it may possibly mean Sidbury. John Stone, buried at Sidbury, appears to have been living contemporary with Nicholas, born near Exeter in 1586, probably they were brothers. A descendant of the Stones was Grand Warden to Sir Christopher Wren, when erecting St. Paul's, before the revival of the Grand Lodge in 1717.

Amongst the painters and sculptors who were buried in the old church of St. Martin in the Fields, may be mentioned Nicholas Stone, the sculptor. There was a marble monument at the west end of this church to this artist:—

"In his lifetime esteemed for his knowledge in sculpture and architecture, which his works in many parts do testify, and though made for others will prove a monument of his fame. He departed this life on the 24th of August 1647, aged sixty-one, and lyeth buried near the pulpit of this church."

This monument was adorned with his bust, finely carved in profile, with several tools used in sculpture—a square, compasses, &c. His

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son, also a sculptor, was buried in the same grave, September 17th, and his wife the following 19th November 1647.

Nicholas Stone was born at Wandbury, near Exeter, in 1586, and, coming to London, lived for some time with Isaac James. He then went to Holland, and married the daughter of Peter de Keyser, for whom he worked at his profession as carver in stone. He returned to England, and was engaged in the building of the Banqueting House, Whitehall. No doubt the sculpture, scrolls, and other ornaments in stone were of his work. In the reign of Charles I. he obtained the patent appointment of Master Mason and Architect of the King's Works at Windsor Castle, &c., for which, saith the document, "we do give him the wages and fee of twelve pence by the day." Nicholas Stone had three sons,—Henry, Nicholas, and John.

Henry, the eldest son, erected the monument for his father, mother and brother, and carried on, in conjunction with John, the business of statuary after his father's death, though Henry addicted himself chiefly to painting, and was an excellent copyist of Vandyke and the Italian masters. Henry wrote a book, "The Third Part of the Art of Painting." This artist continued to reside on the premises which had been his father's, namely, a house, garden, and workyard, situate in Long Acre, which was rented from the crown at £10 per annum. Henry Stone died in 1653, and was buried near his father, where a monument was erected, and this epitaph written for him by his brother John:—

"To the Memory of Henry Stone, of Long Acre, Painter and Statuary, who, having passed the greater part of thirty-seven years in Holland, France, and Italy, achieved a fair renown for his excellence in arts and languages, and departed this life on the 24th of August, A.D. 1653, and lyeth buried near the pulpit of this church."

[Here follow some complimentary verses.]

"John Stone, to perfect his fraternal affection, erected this monument."

The last member of this family of artists was laid in the same church, and, to perpetuate their memory, their near kinsman added to the monumental inscription in the quaint style of the time—

June, 1699—
Four rare Stones are gone,
The father and three sons,

"In memory of whom their near kinsman, Charles Stoakey, repaired this monument."—*Builder*, 1859.

THE FREEMAN'S JOURNAL ON FREEMASONRY.

THE atrocities of the "Liberals" of Liege on the occasion of the Jubilee procession in that city, have been more than rivalled by their "copatriots" in the old city of Ghent. We learn that, as a body of Catholic citizens were peacefully and solemnly performing the church visitations prescribed as portion of the conditions to be fulfilled in order to gain the indulgence of the Jubilee, they were brutally assailed by an impious mob, who saluted them, as they passed along, with filthy jeers and the vilest of blasphemies. When they found that the processionists gave but little attention to their curses and their insults, the ruffianly gang tried other and ruder means to break in upon the holy proceedings. Stones were flung at the Catholics, women were jostled out of the ranks, mud was thrown at the banners, the priests were insulted, and little children were heartlessly beaten and trampled under foot. The longings of the infidels and the secret society members in Belgium have at last been gratified, for blood has been shed and a life has been lost in testimony of their chivalrous doings. The record is, in truth, a painful one, but it is a boast and a glory to the "Liberals" of Belgium. Beyond all question, it is to the Masonic organization on the Continent that the fearful responsibility of the occurrences in Ghent must be charged. That organisation reeks with hatred of Catholicity, and wherever it can, it shows it without stint and without concealment. Its agencies in Belgium are wide-spread and energetic. Ever since the promulgation of the Jubilee, its organs in the Press have been ceaseless in their efforts to stir up the popular passions against the Catholics of the kingdom, and, unhappily, as the result has proved, they have not laboured at their iniquitous toil in vain. Hence the scenes the other day at Liege; hence the blood at Ghent more recently still. It is useless to seek elsewhere than in this secret, oath-bound, anathematised institution the origin of these infamous excesses. The Belgian Masons claim them as glories for the Order, and point to them as evidences of the zeal with which they carry out the ordinances of "the Brotherhood." Whilst this is so, Catholics will not cease to look with abhorrence on the organization in all its branches, and to recognise the wisdom of their Sovereign Pontiff in his fervent repetition of the denunciations with which, from the very foundation of Masonry, the Catholic Church never failed to visit it. It makes no difference to them that Emperors and Kings and Princes and Viceroys yield themselves captive to the fascination (whatever it be) that has lured so many millions within the mystic enclosure. The presence of even such as these cannot elevate into a commendable organization an institution that has given birth to and has nurtured so many anti-Christian and anti-social revolutions and excesses, and Catholics will prefer to follow the teaching of their guides, rather than accept the delusive persuasions of those whose most prominent characteristic is certainly not love of Catholicity. In the trials and persecutions which the Catholics of Belgium are now so heroically and so patiently enduring from the Masonic Lodges of their brave and beautiful country, they may be assured that they have the sympathy of the Catholics of Ireland, and that they have it more the less strongly because that the Catholics of Ireland have themselves suffered; if not in the same way or to the same degree, at least quite as effectively in other ways and with very injurious results, from the operation of the same causes in their own Catholic land.—*Freeman's Journal*, 24th May 1875.

REVIEWS.

All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, 67 Barbican, E.C.

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Bye-Laws of the Lodge of Industry, No. 48; held at Freemasons' Hall, West Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne. Newcastle-on-Tyne: Smith and Son, Printers, &c., 43 Side.

We shall always be happy to notice these little issues, especially when, as in this case, they combine a short history of the Lodge. It is evidence of Masonic interest when a Lodge has its archives, be they few or many, thoroughly ransacked, and a brief sketch compiled therefrom. The career of Lodge No. 48, though not a very eventful one, possesses much interest, as well for members of other Lodges as for its own, and whoever has prepared the sketch now before us has done his work very modestly, but also very efficiently.

"The precise date when this Lodge was founded"—we are quoting the writer's own words—"cannot now be accurately ascertained, but there is good reason for believing that it existed as an operative Lodge, and in perfect working order, about the time when the Grand Lodge of England was resuscitated in 1717." Its meeting house was Swallwell, in Durham, about four miles from Gateshead, whither it emigrated in 1845. A tradition exists that the Lodge was founded by the operative Masons, "who were brought from the south by Sir Abraham Crowley, who established his celebrated Foundry at Winlaton about A.D. 1690." But there is no evidence to support this theory. Be this as it may, however, the Lodge is an early one, as its rank betokens. The oldest minutes were bound up with a copy of the Constitutions, published in 1723. These, with the warrant and other valuable documents, were unfortunately lost before 1770; but the Minute Book was accidently recovered by Bro. John Etridge Wilkinson, who found it exhibited for sale on a bookstall, and forthwith purchased it, and presented it to the Lodge. This book contained a record of all the minutes, appointments of officers, &c., &c., the first entry, under date 29th September 1725, being to the following effect:—"Then Matthew Armstrong and Bro. Douglass had their names registered as entered apprentices," paying the sum of 1s 6d. The original warrant, we are told, was dated 24th June 1735, the number of the Lodge being then 132; but this having been lost, a Charter of Confirmation was granted in October 1771, by the G.W. the Duke of Beaufort, and this is still extant. From No. 132 in 1735 it rose to be No. 117 in 1740, 72 in 1756, 61 in 1770, 48 in 1781, 44 in 1792, 64 in 1813, in consequence of the Union, when it was laid down that the modern and ancient Lodges should rank alternately, according to their order on the respective Grand Lodge Rolls—No. 56 in 1832, and 48 in 1863, which last rank it still retains. In 1807, application was made to M.W.G.M. the late Earl of Zetland, for permission to wear a centenary medal, and permission was unhesitatingly accorded. Among the minutes it is recorded that, from 1713 to 1753, the brethren annually elected a Prov. Grand Master, claiming the privilege from a Charter granted in 1734 by G.M. the Earl of Crawford. It is doubtful, however, whether those powers were justly exercised, at all events they were superseded by the revised constitutions of 1767, when Lord Blayney was G.M. In 1845 the Lodge had dwindled to but a small number of members, and it was therefore resolved to remove the Lodge to Gateshead, since when it has remained in a most flourishing state. In 1867 steps were taken to erect a Masonic Hall, the building being completed in 1869, on the 22nd March, in which year the first meeting was held, when Bro. John Stokoe P.M. was elected W.M. The Lodge room is handsome and well-appointed, and contains some beautiful Scagliola Pillars, presented by the Earl of Durham. After this sketch follows a List of W.M.'s, the present occupant of the throne being Bro. Rd. Gregory. Then comes the bye-laws which do not differ materially from those of other Lodges.

We cordially wish the Lodge of Industry all prosperity, and we repeat the hope expressed at the outset of this notice that other of our older Lodges may follow the good example presented by this Lodge, and also by Bro. Constable of the Lodge of Tranquility No. 185.

MAGAZINES OF THE MONTH.

Blackwood is, if possible, richer than usual this month in the excellence of its contents. The relations between labour and capital are hardly a question into which it is competent for us to enter, but no one who reads carefully, as they deserve to be, the "Thoughts about British Workmen, Past and Present," will fail to appreciate the value of this paper. Part of "the Dilemma," contains an admirable scene of a Steeple-chase, in which the young subaltern Yorke distinguishes himself, though he does not win. The feelings of Yorke towards Miss Cunningham are daily becoming more pronounced, and he is rising into notice among the superior officers on the station. The inspection, too, of a N. I. Regiment, is well described, the unfortunate major getting himself most wofully befogged, and his regiment into inextricable confusion, when endeavouring to form square. The remarks on "Bits and Bearing-reins," and the insanity, not to say cruelty of using them, are marked by great judgement. The relations between "France and Germany," form the subject of the political article, and there is a dry, but to financiers, no doubt, a most interesting contribution on "Banking, &c., and Mr. Goschen's Bill." About the best article, however—at all events the one, we fancy, which will find most readers—is that on "Polar Exploration." We refer elsewhere to the Expedition which left Portsmouth on Saturday last, and as now-a-days it is the fashion to know everything, every one for the next two or three years will aim at being an authority on Arctic Voyaging. Any of our readers who may have the feeling cannot do better than begin their course of preparation, by studying this

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admirable *résumé*. The brief notice of the late Admiral Sherard Osborn,—himself a distinguished Arctic Voyager—is flattering, but only to the full extent of justice, for his death removes one of our ablest officers from the Navy List.

Fraser, too, falls in with the national bent of the moment, and devotes many pages to a summary of "Arctic Expeditions" from the earliest period of Arctic adventure to the present time. There is little to choose between the two; that in *Blackwood* having had the advantage, as we are told, of the late Admiral Osborn's supervision, is perhaps the better of the two, but this is a matter of individual judgment. However, either as a first or second course of study of "Arctic Expeditions," this article is well worthy our attention. The article on "The Civil Service" is ably written, but it is hardly for us to express any judgment on the merits from a service point of view, that task naturally devolving on the Civilians themselves, who always have our best wishes. "Primary Education in Ireland" is also, in some degree, a political measure, yet we cannot refrain from expressing our pleasure in reading the letter therein signed "J. O.," in the number under notice. Karl Blind's account of "Fire-Burial among our Germanic Forefathers" is an excellent historical sketch, most lucidly put together, there being no difficulty whatever in following the writer. Nor must we pass over No. V. of "German Home Life," in which the writer describes the language of the people and expresses no little wonder at its having been till lately so little appreciated in England.

Tinsleys' maintains its high standard, both as regards serial fiction, occasional papers, and its poetry. Mr. Farjeon's story, "Love's Victory," is brought to a conclusion. As a chronicler of the month's history Dr. Davies felt himself no doubt obliged to introduce the revival meetings of Messrs. Moody and Sankey, but in our humble estimation these revivalists are becoming just a little too obtrusive. Even a luxury becomes a nuisance when it is thrust upon us, and this revivalism will be similarly regarded if Messrs. Moody and Sankey and their agents worry people with their excess of zeal. We shall not seriously take it to heart when these worthy preachers have sought and found a new field for their religious labours. This expression of opinion must not be taken, however, as in aught detracting from the life and vigour of Dr. Davies's sketches and comments, which are worth reading, as is all that comes from his pen. In evidence of which we quote, not as last month the whole, for it is too long, but the last stanza, of his No. XVIII. of Troubadour Songs, on "Love knows no Repulse." It reads thus:—

"'Twas ever so with woman. Those who woo
Most humbly often find they woo in vain.
Why wonder I to find that adage true?
The fact is trite: then why should I complain?
I love, but fruitlessly; and, wouldst thou tell,
The truth, it is because I love too well.
Thou mayst not share my love, but, proud one, know
Thou canst not make me cease to love thee so."

Cassell's Family is excellent as usual. The serials increase in interest each month, and the occasional papers, especially those which deal with family matters, are capital reading. The notes of "The Gatherer" are various, useful, and generally to the point. The most seasonable contribution is Mr. A. G. Payne's, on "Cooling Drinks." The discussion of these necessaries of life in hot weather has afforded him the opportunity, which he has not failed to take advantage of, of saying a few words about the besetting sin of our countrymen. A suggestion of his, which we quote hereunder, is worthy of something more than a passing notice. "Perhaps," writes Mr. Payne, "one of the simplest and most effective cures for the dangerous habit we speak of is the substitution of some agreeable, but, at the same time, harmless drink for the usual stimulant. We believe that this point has not met with the attention it deserves. The public-houses of London are essentially drinking-houses. A poor man, to whom every penny is an object, is almost driven when thirsty to take beer too often; unfortunately, the beer in question being so adulterated that it helps in the end to increase rather than alleviate thirst. On the other hand, a Paris Café contains a choice of drinks almost unknown in London, many of which combine a delicious flavour, with the advantage of being non-intoxicating. I have known several cases of English lads who, when in England, invariably took beer, who looked forward with pleasure to the equally cheap glass of groseille and water when abroad. Those to whom I refer were in charge of some race horses, had been educated at Newmarket, and were constantly in the habit of travelling between that place and Paris." This is only preliminary, however, to the suggestion, which is, "We could recommend some enterprising grocers, during the present summer, to offer for sale glasses of syrup and water—say Groseille—with a small piece of ice in each, for a penny, the profit would be considerable. Were every grocer's shop in London to adopt this suggestion, I believe more would be done towards checking intemperance than all that the efforts of the teetotal societies have done for years." We trust this admirable suggestion may find more support than is usually vouchsafed to such.

There are several admirable illustrations in *Belgravia*, nor are the literary contents a whit below the usual standard. Mr. Sala never writes in any but an agreeable vein, and his remarks on "Carriage People," though set down as "An Outburst of Envy," are extremely pleasant reading and truthful withal. Mr. J. Irving Ritchie contributes a very readable paper on "The Alexandra Palace," pointing out its many advantages as a place of wholesome public resort, not the least of these advantages being its accessibility by road or rail from all parts of London, the magnificent scenery of which it is the centre, and, consequently, the many opportunities it affords the wearied, yet ever toiling Londoner, for seeking a change and breathing, even for a short time, the genial fresh air of the country. Besides these are a capital article, most genially written, by Dr. Davies on "A Parson on the Stage," Mr. Compton Reade's "Oxford Raffles" No. IV., and further chapters of the serial "Hugh Melton," which has arrived at a particularly interesting stage. The other contents are, with hardly an exception, equally readable with those we have referred to.

Baily can never be uncentertaining, the very nature of its contents ensure amusement, and no small amount of instruction likewise. The "Old Shekarry" contributes a second instalment of his "Life in the Far West," written with his wonted geniality. The writer of "Mr. Gerard Sturt on the Horse Question," scores more than one successful point at the expense of the honourable member, and a successful parry, much less counterpoint, will be somewhat of a difficult task to make. The notes on "Cricket" and "Yachting and Rowing," together with the genial comments *de omnibus rebus* by the driver of "Our Van" are not the least worthy contributions to an excellent number.

Of the good sterling matter generally to be met with in *Temple Bar*, the articles on "Catherine de Medicis and Her Times," and "Thomas William Robertson, and the Modern Theatre" are not the least valuable, but the cream of the number must be looked for in the highly patriotic study of the question, "Is the national spirit dead?" Of necessity we avoid the discussion of political topics, but it cannot be doubted, quite apart from all political differences, that we have done lately very little towards maintaining the ancient prestige of Old England. Commerce is well enough in its way, and commercial enterprise, like all other enterprise, is evidence of greatness. But commerce is not the only thing we have to live for.

Mr. W. H. G. Kingston stands in the foremost rank of our nautical writers, novelists is the more appropriate word perhaps. It will be needless for us to do more than call the attention of our readers to his contribution to the *Leisure Hour* on "Portsmouth: now, and in the olden time," which cannot fail to prove attractive reading. "Household Things Wanted," as the title shows, is an article of domestic interest, while of the other papers we have singled out especially, "National History Anecdotes," "The Palaces of Old London," by none other than the late John Timbs, and Dr. E. F. Rimbault's sketch of "The Father of the Pianoforte."

What can we say more of *Sunday at Home* than that its contents are always appropriate, some more so, perhaps, than others. Thus Dr. Edkin's article on "Chinese Ideas of the Future Life" will prove generally interesting, the more so that the subject is unfamiliar to most of us. "The slowness of the Creative Process" is another contribution which will, doubtless, take the fancy of a certain class of readers, while "Jewish Life in the time of Our Lord," will prove almost universally entertaining and instructive. Both this and the *Leisure Hour* are capitally illustrated.

The *Westminster Papers* contains an excellent portrait of the late Mr. A. R. Bristow, whose death we regretfully announced a few weeks since. It also gives the results of the Chess Problem Tourney, which has extended now over nearly twelve months. There are, too, hands at Whist, and Dramatic Notes, as usual.

Among the contents of *Le Monde Maçonnique* for May, the opening number of the seventeenth volume, we would specially direct attention to the remarks on two topics decidedly in antagonism with each other. These are "*Installation du Prince de Galles comme Grand Maître*" and "*Nouveau Bref Pontifical, dirigé contre la Francmaçonnerie.*" Both these should be carefully studied.

The second number of the *Canadian Masonic News* opens with a very pertinent letter on "Masonic Literature," and the services which such publication of Masonic matters as is by law permissible must render to the Craft. Amongst other contents are "Memoirs of the Holy Land," and "The Freemason's Widow"—a tale of the Mexican war, by a traveller—both being very readable.

The last number of the *Masonic Jewel* contains several articles of more than a passing interest. That, perhaps, which will attract the greatest amount of notice, is by Bro. Jacob Norton, "About Masonic Romances." Whether we agree with the writer or not, there is no denying his great ability. Our readers will, doubtless, form their own judgment about the correctness of his views. It mostly happens that advice in one direction or the other, in matters controversial, is distasteful. There is also a neat summary of recent proceedings in various Masonic jurisdictions.

We have received a series of numbers, up to Monday the 3rd ultimo, of the *Maçonnick Weekblad*, the organ of the Craft in Holland. Such of our readers as may understand Dutch will derive much profit from reading the oration delivered at the anniversary festival of the Lodge Pestalozzi, at Naples, on 21st February, and translated by Bro. Dr. B. Schoner.

The *Masonic Review* (published at Cincinnati, Ohio), contains plenty of readable matter, as well as "A Song for the Craft," set to music, the words being by Bro. S. N. Evans, and the music, dedicated to Bro. J. N. Burr, by Bro. J. B. Beardsley. We commend this to our musical brethren.

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"(Signed) WM. HARDWICKE, M.D.,
"Public Analyst for Paddington, and Coroner for Central Middlesex."

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—:o:—

OUR FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

Manchester, 31st May 1875.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Probably Bro. Walter Spencer will be acquainted with the following Scottish operative work, which I have only in M.S.

"A Mason's confession of the oath, word and other secrets of his Craft. These are to certify concerning that oath, word and other secrets held among the corporation of Masons, wherein I was taken under the same, by sundry of them gathered together and met at D—— [Dundee], about the year 1727."

It differs not materially from Pritchard, and other similar revelations, but is far more persistently operative. After the oath the administrator says:—

"You sat down a cowan, I take you up a Mason."

"There is a yearly imposing of that oath in admissions among the said Craft, through the land on St. John's day as it is termed, being the 27th of December."

After the oath he is shown a word in the Bible; and in twelve months, "when he is admitted a degree higher in the Lodge," he is shown another.

After other signs the Brother is asked:—

Q. "Who made you a Mason?"

A. "God Almighty's holy will made me a Mason, the square under God made me a Mason, nineteen Fellow Crafts, and thirteen entered Prentices made me a Mason."

Q. "Where's your Master?"

A. "He is not so far off but he may be found."

"Then if the square be at hand, it is offered on the stone at which they are working, &c. . . ."

"He's a Mason, thats a Mason born, a Mason sworn, and a Mason by trade."

"The day that a Prentice comes under the oath he gets his choice of a mark to be put upon his tools by which to discern them, so I did choose this—which cost me one mark Scots. Hereby one is taught to such as ask the question:—

Q. "Where got you this mark?"

A. "I laid down one and took up another."

This summarily settles the mark question, and is confirmed by two operative Masons of one of my former Lodges, who belonged to "St. Mungo" for eight generations, and for so long received their mark.

There is also the "Monday's lesson" of the kitchen.

"To know if one or more Masons be in a company which one meets on the way, he says: 'Who walks?' Then if one be there, he says: 'A man walks.' If more be there the answer is: 'Men walk.' Then, says he: 'Good Men and Masters, met you be; God bless all your company.' Or, he gives the sign by the right hand above the breath, which is called the Fellows' Craft due guard, and the grip, by clasping his fingers at the wrist, next at the elbow, or placing himself hand to hand, foot to foot, knee to knee, heart to heart, says: 'Great you, great you, God greateth you, and make you a good Master Mason, I'm a young man, going to push my fortune, if you can furnish me, you will do well.'"

Comment upon the foregoing is needless, there is sufficient to upset the 1717 theory, whilst proving my assertion that the English speculative Masons inherited a more systematic system than the Scottish Masons, that, in fact, then, as now, there were good and bad working Lodges. A comparison with the Rev. Bro. Woodford's Sloane MS. No. 3329 is most interesting, as they confirm each other as well as the modern ceremonies.

I remain,
Yours fraternally,
JOHN YARKER.

"THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE" AT THE NORTH POLE.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

11 Cumberland Terrace, Finsbury Park,
31st May 1875.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I know not what other Masonic literature may accompany the Polar explorers, but I do happen to know that your own interesting journal has been taken by Dr. Ninnis, Medical Officer to the Expedition, for perusal during the onerous leisure of the Arctic winter. I am sure you will share my hope that he may return in due time, safe and sound, to enjoy a warm Masonic welcome home. Yours, &c. GEOGRAPHER.

Freemasonry secures its members in the freedom of thought and of speech, and permits each and every one to act according to the dictates of his own conscience in matters of religion, and of his personal preference in matters of politics. It neither knows, nor does it assume to inflict upon its erring members, however wide may be their aberrations from duty, any penalties or punishments, other than those of admonition, suspension and expulsion.—*Freemason's Repository.*

THE DRAMA.

"The Detective" at the Mirror Theatre—"Money" at the Prince of Wales's.

LE Parricide was not a success in France in either of its forms, as a novel or as a drama, and it is hard to tell how a play which in Paris was a failure, could easily be metamorphosed into a success in London. The task has been attempted by Messrs. Clement Scott and Manuel, and the result of their labours was produced last Saturday, in the shape of a drama bearing a strong family resemblance to "The Ticket of Leave Man." The plot of the piece is simple and easily followed. Mrs. Lindon, an old lady, is robbed and murdered by two burglars at her house in St. John's Wood; through a combination of circumstances, suspicion falls upon her scapegrace son, Laurence; he is arrested by inspector Walker, in charge of the case, but on being examined, clears himself, and, on being set free, vows to hunt down the murderers of his mother. In this he eventually succeeds, assisted by Walker, and also by a protégée of Mrs. Lindon, named Ruth Leigh, whom of course Laurence marries. The piece affords plenty of opportunities for that realisation of scenes of low life which is so popular in sensational dramas; two scenes in particular, the interior of a booth at Hampton races, and an East End music hall, are very bustling and lively. Except in two instances, the acting does not rise above mediocrity; Miss Ernstone as Ruth Leigh contributed more than any one to the success of the piece: Miss Ernstone is always careful, and possesses sufficient ability, if only the opportunity were afforded her, to take a place in the foremost ranks of English actresses. Mr. Horace Wigan's Hawkshaw was one of the features of *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*, and his Inspector Walker is a better, because more elaborate impersonation: two disguises which he assumes would puzzle very keen eyes. The literary merits of the piece are not great, nor is the construction very good: but *The Detective* belongs to a class of plays always popular at the Mirror, and will probably achieve a moderate success.

Mr. Bancroft has acted wisely in accepting so promptly the verdict of the public upon *The Merchant of Venice*. It was a charming stage picture, no doubt, only needing life to be perfection, but the life and passion which Shylock should have supplied were entirely wanting. Mr. Coghlan's performance, so long and anxiously looked forward to, so generally and justly condemned, is but one more illustration of the old Horatian saying:—

"*Montes parturiunt nascitur ridiculus mus.*"

It is pleasant to turn from this disappointing performance to the revival of *Money*, with which comedy Mr. Bancroft has filled up the interregnum caused by the failure of the *Merchant*. Increased interest is attached to the play by the appearance of Miss Ellen Terry as Clara Douglas, and of Mrs. Bancroft as Lady Franklin. Clara Douglas is one of the most stilted and unnatural of heroines: yet Miss Terry contrives to make her appear most sympathetic and most loveable. Those who saw the performance of *Sweethearts* at this theatre must have found it hard to decide in which character Mrs. Bancroft was most admirable: whether her display of girlish wilfulness in the first act, or of tender quiet feeling as the old lady in the last act, was the more charming. We cannot afford to lose Mrs. Bancroft from the ranks of our stage girls, and yet her acting in *Sweethearts*, and as Lady Franklin, is perfection in another line, in which we have few proficients. The scene in which Lady Franklin coaxes the melancholy Mr. Graves into laugh' song and dance, has probably never been better played than as now by Mrs. Bancroft and Mr. Honey. It is a scene of pure comedy, played to perfection by two thorough artists. The cast remains in other respects as before, and we need hardly say that *Money* is thoroughly successful.

RECONCILIATION.

THE following incident occured in Naphtali Lodge, No. 23, in the city of St. Louis, and was thus related in an address delivered by Past Grand Master Thomas E. Garrett, at the unveiling of the O'Sullivan monument:

Two men had been fast friends. In an evil hour they quarrelled. They did not speak, and had not spoken for years. Mutual friends tried the art of reconciliation in vain. They were vowed enemies for life. One of them became a Mason after the estrangement, and it happened that the other remained ignorant of the fact. One evening he, too, was admitted into the Lodge. Almost the first voice he heard, and certainly the first face he saw, was that of his enemy, who presided over the ceremony of initiation, and was obliged, according to usage, to address him by the title of "Brother." This was a peculiar situation, and a severe ordeal for both. After the Lodge was closed the Apprentice sought the Master, and without any preliminaries the following colloquy ensued, commenced by the newly made Mason.

"Are you a member of this Lodge?"

The answer was, "I am."

"Were you present when I was elected?"

"I was."

"May I ask if you voted?"

"I did."

"Now, will you tell me how many votes is required to reject a candidate on ballot for admission?"

The Worshipful Master answered, "One."

There was nothing more to say. The initiated extended his hand, which was warmly grasped by the other, and uttered, with thrilling accents, deep emotion mellowing his voice, "Friend! Brother! you have taught me a lesson I shall never forget." No language is so eloquent as the silent throbbing of a heart full of joyous tears.—*Pomeroy's Democrat.*

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THE THEATRES, &c.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.—This evening, LOHENGRIN. On Monday, LA TRAVIATA. On Tuesday, LE NOZZE DI FIGARO. On Wednesday, LA FIGLIA DEL REGGIMENTO. On Thursday, LOHENGRIN. On Friday, IL FLAUTO MAGICO. At 8.30 each evening.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA, DRURY LANE.—This evening, SEMIRAMIDE. On Monday, FAUST. On Tuesday, LA SONNAMBULA. On Thursday, SEMIRAMIDE, at 8.30 each evening. On Monday morning, at 2.30, and Friday evening, at 8.30, OTHELLO. On Wednesday evening, at 8.30, HAMLET.

HAYMARKET.—At 7.30, A FAIR ENCOUNTER, DAVID GARRICK, and THE SERIOUS FAMILY.

ADELPHI.—At 6.45, TWO HEADS ARE BETTER THAN ONE, NICHOLAS NICKLEBY and A PANTOMIME REHEARSED.

PRINCESS'S.—At 7.45, ROUND THE WORLD IN EIGHTY DAYS.

LYCEUM.—At 6.50, FISH OUT OF WATER. At 7.45, HAMLET. On Saturday, a morning performance at 2.30 only.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.30, TWENTY MINUTES WITH A TIGER. AT 8.0, THE SPENDTHRIFT.

STRAND.—At 7.30, AN EARNEST APPEAL. At 8.0, WEAK WOMEN and INTIMIDAD.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 8.0, MONEY.

GAIETY.—At 8.0, FRENCH OPERA.

GLOBE.—At 7.0, EAST LYNNE and BLUE BEARD. (Last Nights.)

ST. JAMES'S.—At 7.30, A PHENOMENON IN A SMOCK FROCK, TOM COBB and TRYING IT ON.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG, OUR BOYS and A FEARFUL FOG.

CHARING CROSS.—JEANNE DUBARRY and CATTARINA.

MIRROR.—At 7.0, NAVAL ENGAGEMENTS. At 8.15, THE DETECTIVE.

OPERA COMIQUE.—FRENCH PLAY.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, THE ARTFUL DODGE and CHILPERIC.

CRITERION.—On Monday at 8.0, LA FILLEU DU ROI.

COURT.—At 7.30, SHORT AND SWEET. At 8.20, LADY FLORA.

SURREY.—LOTTERY TICKET and SHIP AHOY.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—This Day, SUMMER CONCERT. On Monday, THE TEMPEST. On Tuesday, OPERA, FIREWORK DISPLAY, &c. On Wednesday, CONCERT OF LONDON SUNDAY SCHOOL CHOIRS. On Friday, Mr. SOTHERN and the HAYMARKET COMPANY. Open daily. AQUARIUM, PICTURE GALLERY, &c.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.—This day, CONCERT, GARDEN FETE, &c. On Monday, SWIMMING. On Wednesday, CHORAL FESTIVAL OF THE TONIC SOL-FA ASSOCIATION. On Thursday, FIREWORKS. Open daily. HENGLER'S CIRCUS, &c.

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NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE House of Lords resumed its labours, after the Whitsun holidays, on Friday. After the Royal assent had been given by Commission to sundry Bills, the Duke of Richmond announced the intention of the Government to issue a Royal Commission of inquiry into the question of vivisection before proceeding to legislate, and he appealed to Lord Henniker, who had introduced a Bill to regulate the practice, not to bring it forward. In response, Lord Henniker agreed to postpone the second reading for a month. The second reading of Lord Selborne's two measures, the General School of Law Bill, and the Inns of Court Bill, was then agreed to, after a debate, in which the Lord Chancellor and Lord Hatherley took part. The Earl of Derby having announced, in reply to Lord Houghton, that the Royal Geographical Society would be represented at the Geographical Exhibition, proposed to be held in Paris, in August, but that as the Congress was not officially recognised by the French Government, no official representative from England would attend, their Lordships adjourned. On Monday, several subjects of interest were discussed. Earl Russell moved for the production of correspondence relating to recent diplomatic occurrences on the Continent, a motion to which the Earl of Derby declined to accede, Earl Granville offering a few remarks mostly in support of the Government refusal. The Military Manœuvres Bill was then read a second time. The rest of the sitting was occupied with a long and interesting discussion as to the efficiency and strength of our army, originated by Lord Hardinge asking H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge whether a recent speech of his had been correctly reported. The Duke at once corrected sundry misapprehensions which his remarks had caused, stating that what he did say was, that he was quite satisfied with the physique of the men he had seen at Aldershot, whose appearance far exceeded his expectations. He added, that what he wanted was a large reserve, an army of *cadres* being of no use without. Viscount Cardwell, as ex-secretary for war, then said his say, expressing an opinion that we had a good reserve, both for the army and militia. Earl Grey differed on some points, and expressed his views with his usual perspicuity. Lord Strathnairn offered a few remarks, and the Marquis of Lansdowne and the Duke of Richmond contributed their experiences, the latter expressing the determination of the Government to deal thoroughly with the most important question. The House shortly after adjourned. On Tuesday, on the motion for going into Committee on the Church Patronage Bill, Lord Houghton pointed out that, in his opinion, the amendments introduced into the Bill had materially altered its complexion. The Bishops of London and Peterborough having made some remarks, the House went into Committee, and some of the most important clauses were the subject of debate, several divisions occurring, when the whole of the clauses were agreed to. After passing the Military Manœuvres Bill through another stage, the House adjourned. On Thursday, the House went into Committee on the Artisans' Dwellings Bill, which passed this stage, after a careful discussion of the most important clauses. Other business having been transacted, the House rose.

On Friday, the House of Commons had a protracted sitting. Sir C. Dilke, after the usual questions had been

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disposed of, drew attention to certain unreformed borough corporations in England and Wales, not incorporated under the Act 5 and 6 William IV., c. 76. Lord R. Churchill spoke amusingly and with great ability in opposition. The Attorney-General agreed to produce a part of the returns moved for, provided Sir C. Dilke withdrew his motion, which was accordingly done. Mr. E. Jenkins then moved a resolution, having reference to the Irish Church, calling for the appointment of a Royal Commission to inquire into the distribution and application of the funds of the Disestablished Irish Church. In the debate that followed the principal speakers were Mr. Gibson and the Irish Solicitor-General, who opposed, Mr. Jenkins being defeated by 148 to 34. Mr. Whalley then brought up the Tichborne trial, but his speech only elicited ironical cheers from the House, the Home Secretary declining to entertain Mr. Whalley's views. Mr. Hope then moved the second reading of the Increase of the Episcopate Bill. Sir W. Harcourt spoke at some length on the measure, which he evidently regarded with but little favour. Several motions for the adjournment of the debate were made, yet defeated in turn, but the motion being again renewed, Mr. Hope at length yielded, and the debate was adjourned. The Treatment of Animals Bill was withdrawn, and the House soon after rose. On Monday, the chief business transacted was the settlement of the question relating to the exclusion of strangers. The debate on the Marquis of Hartington's resolutions was continued by Mr. G. Hardy, who opposed them. Col. Mure followed, then Sir R. Knightley, Mr. Roebuck, Sir W. Harcourt (who supported his leader), Mr. Horsman (who opposed him), and Mr. Ward Hunt. The Marquis having replied, the House divided on the first resolution, and the Government were victorious by 254 to 147, or a majority of 107. The second then came on, and Mr. Newdegate moved an amendment, after which Mr. Disraeli moved the resolution of which he had given notice, to the effect that on the espial of strangers, the Speaker or Chairman shall put their exclusion to the vote of the House, without allowing any debate or explanation, provided that he (the Speaker or Chairman) may order, if he think fit at any time, the withdrawal of strangers from any part of the House. Mr. Newdegate's amendment found but little favour, only 30 members supporting, while 192 opposed. Mr. Disraeli's proposition was then carried, amid cheers. On the motion that the House go into Committee on the Friendly Societies Bill, Colonel Barttelot moved a resolution to the effect that no Legislation can be deemed satisfactory which does not provide for registration and audit, and for the gradual introduction of a properly calculated scale of contributions. The Chancellor of the Exchequer having explained the scope and purpose of the Bill, the amendment was withdrawn, and the House went into Committee, getting as far as the eighth Clause, when it resumed, and the Chairman reported progress. The House adjourned at half-past one. At the morning sitting on Tuesday, Mr. Whalley impeded the progress of public business by moving the issue of a writ for the vacant seat at Norwich. Dr. Kenealy seconded the motion, a most unusual one for any private member to bring forward. A little wrangling ensued, and ultimately Mr. R. Yorke's amendment, to the effect that the writ be suspended till the evidence of the Norwich election petition had been considered, was carried. The House then resumed the Committee on the Friendly Societies Bill. Clauses 10 and 11 were agreed to, after a very minute discussion, several amendments more or less salutary being proposed. On the 12th Clause, progress was reported. Sundry bills were read a third time, and the sitting suspended till nine o'clock, when Sir J. Hay drew attention to the question of Navy Promotion and Retirement, in a long speech; but nothing resulted from his motion. On Wednesday, Mr. Crawford moved the second reading of the Landlord and Tenant (Ireland) Act (1870) Amendment Bill, which relates to Ulster and the custom of tenant right in that province. Mr. Gibson moved that it be read that day three months. Mr. Butt supported the measure. A long debate followed, the Marquis of Hartington, who proposed to vote for the second reading, without pledging himself to the details, bringing up the rear. On a division, the bill was defeated by 301 to 151. On Thursday, nearly the whole of the sitting was devoted to the Friendly Societies' Bill in Committee, and, having reached the 28th clause, the Chairman reported progress, the further consideration of the Bill being reserved for the day following, at a morning sitting.

The week has been a lively one. On Saturday, Her Majesty's birthday was celebrated in the usual manner and with the usual loyalty, though the weather was not the most favourable, either in the morning for the military displays, or in the evening for the illuminations. There was, in the first place, the ceremony of trooping the colours at the back of the Horse Guards, the Duke of Cambridge and a numerous staff being on the ground, while the Princess of Wales and her children viewed the sight from the Horse Guards. At Woolwich, at Portsmouth, at Aldershot, in fact at all the great military and naval stations, the troops and ships did honour to the occasion, and expended the needful amount of gunpowder in the accustomed salutes and *feux-de-joie*. In the evening, Mr. Disraeli, the Earl of Derby, the Home and War Secretaries, and other leading ministers, gave the usual banquets. The Prince of Wales dined with the First Lord of the Treasury, the Duke of Edinburgh with the First Lord of the Admiralty, and the Dukes of Connaught and Cambridge with the Secretary for War. The reception afterwards held at the Foreign Office was brilliant, the Prince, the Dukes, and Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, the Duke of Teck and the Maharajah Dhuleep Singh being present. In honour of the auspicious occasion Generals Sir John Forbes Fitzgerald, G.C.B., the Marquis of Tweeddale, K.T., G.C.B., and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales have been raised to the rank of Field Marshal, while several other distinguished officers, both naval and military, have had the honour of the Bath of the first or second class conferred upon them. The effect of the illuminations was sadly marred by the rain, as also were the special programmes provided at the Alexandra Palace and elsewhere.

On Monday, by command of Her Majesty, the Prince of Wales held a Levee at St. James's Palace, nearly 400 presentations taking place on the occasion, while the Diplomatic and General circles were both numerously attended; the Dukes of Edinburgh, Connaught and Cambridge being present. Her Majesty's Body Guards of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen at Arms were in attendance, under the Earl of Shrewsbury, as were also the Yeomen of the Guard, under Lord Skelmersdale.

The most eventful episode of the week is the departure, on Saturday afternoon, of the Arctic Expedition, under Captain Nares. In the forenoon the two ships were officially inspected by the Lords of the Admiralty, there being present the First Lord, Mr. G. Ward Hunt, Lord Gifford, Sir Alexander Milne, Sir Massey Lopez, and Mr. Vernon Lushington. "My Lords" minutely inspected everything, both men and *matériel*, and finding all, as might have been expected, in a satisfactory condition, shook hands with all the officers of both ships, wishing them and the crews God speed on their adventurous voyage, the latter promptly acknowledging the honour by three hearty cheers. Just before starting, the Queen, too, sent the following telegram to Captain Nares: "I earnestly wish you and your gallant companions every success, and trust you may safely accomplish the important duty you have undertaken." To this Captain Nares replied: "I feel deeply the great honour Her Majesty has done myself and the other members of the expedition in wishing us success. Her Majesty may depend on all doing their duty." At the last moment also, two bulky parcels, addressed to the respective Captains of the ships, were sent aboard, as presents from Her Majesty. When the final leave-taking between the officers and men, and their families and friends was over, the ships slowly left their anchorage, amid the cheers of the multitudes assembled at every point, as well as from the ships in harbour, the crews acknowledging with a will this hearty farewell. As we have remarked before, both vessels are fitted with everything that can contribute, as well to the comforts of those on board, as to the success of the expedition. That it may return, after achieving its object, is the prayer of every loyal Briton.

The Horse Show at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, is always looked forward to with great interest, and this year the entries were more numerous than at any previous exhibition. The work of judging commenced on Saturday, and was completed on Monday, after which the leaping went on, to the delight and admiration of those present.

On Saturday, the Crystal Palace held its annual Flower Show, over seventy prizes being awarded among the twenty-six classes of exhibits. The show was most successful, the principal attractions being the stove and greenhouse plants. Among the principal prize winners were Messrs. Jackson and Sons, of Kingston, Mr. B. S. Williams,

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of Upper Holloway, Mr. Jackson, of Woking, Messrs. Paul and Son, of Cheshunt. The attendance exceeded 17,000, season ticket holders forming the bulk of those present.

On Monday, the Bath and West of England Agricultural Show, at Croydon, was opened. The entries numbered 806 for all classes, as against 740 at last year's show, held at Bristol. These comprise 364 cattle, 180 pens of sheep, 132 of pigs, and 133 horses, including 7 males, chiefly from Poitou. There are also 440 entries of poultry and 100 of pigeons, besides implements, a horticultural tent, an art gallery, and several objects of interest "loaned" from South Kensington Museum.

This week the Kennel Club are holding their annual Dog Show at the Crystal Palace, the entries being 1,358, while the actual number of dogs exhibited reached 1,500, some 300 more being refused. With the exception of the show at the Agricultural Hall, some years since, this is the largest dog show ever held in this country. The exhibits include every variety of dog, both sporting and non-sporting, from the grand Newfoundland, or bloodhound, down to the tiniest imaginable toy terrier. There were some very remarkable specimens shown, notably in the extra classes for foreign dogs, both those used in field sports and those not. These include two Chow-Chow dogs such as the Chinese eat, a Japanese slut, poodles, tamed Dingoes, and two magnificent brutes from Chinese Tartary, an Esquimaux, Thibet mastiffs, &c., the Prince and Princess of Wales taking the first prize for a pair of fine Russian wolfhounds. Those who have missed this exhibition will have lost a very great treat

We refer to Bro. Captain Boyton's successful passage of the Channel elsewhere. We may mention, however, that before leaving for London, our gallant Brother was entertained, first at Dover, which he visited after a brief rest at 11 a.m. Saturday, and by the S. E. Company at the Pavilion, at a banquet specially organised to do honour to his achievement by the Company. His health was drunk with great enthusiasm at both places, and in the evening he left for London, large crowds witnessing his departure for the metropolis.

The match North v. South, at Prince's, terminated on Saturday, the latter being victorious by five wickets. In their second innings the North made a better fight of it than had been expected, putting together no less than 288, to which A. Greenwood contributed 93, M. M'Intyre 56, while several others got into double figures. In the second innings of the South, the Leviathan made 23, and his brother and Mr. I. D. Walker, both not out, 27 and 19 respectively. The M.C.C. and Ground have fared badly at the hands of Cambridge University, the former making only 114 and 154, while the Cantabs made 233 and 36 for the loss of one wicket. Among other matches may be mentioned that of Lancashire v. Derbyshire, the latter having four wickets to pull and 45 runs to make in order to win; Kent v. Sussex, the latter winning by 10 wicket; Notts v. Yorkshire, in which the former were successful, with six wickets still to fall; and Oxford University v. Gentlemen of England. The latter in their first innings were all out for 133, while the University achieved a total of 358, Messrs. Lang (54), Webbe (120), Briggs (48), Game (45), and Ridley (not out, 43) being the principal contributors. In their second attempt, the Gentlemen were all out for 47, Mr. G. F. Grace (16) being the only double figure, Mr. Foord-Kelsey's bowling being evidently too strong for them. Mr. W. G. Grace was not of the team. The Cutters Matches of the Royal Thames Yacht Club were sailed in two classes, the Prince of Wales, Commodore of the Club, being on board the Sunbeam, and accompanying the race for a part of the course, which was from Gravesend round the Mouse Light Ship and back. There was a strong array of entries in each class, the prizes in which were won, in the first, by the "Neva" (£100), and "Iona" (£40), and in the second, by "Britannia" (£100), and "Norman" (£30). There was a strong breeze blowing, and more than one mishap occurred. At the Alexandra Palace Races on Tuesday and Wednesday, the attendance of spectators was very considerable and the sport fair, albeit not as good as was expected. The course was rather hard, and the turns somewhat sharp, one jockey fracturing his collar bone on the first day. The rough element was conspicuous by its absence, and those who went passed a very enjoyable time, the outdoor attractions forming a great feature in the entertainment, and both days being bright and sunshiny.

On Saturday, a new sport was added to the already long list of out-door exercises. The 5th or Royal Irish Lancers held a tournament at Hurlingham, a detachment of 12 men under the command of Captain Poole coming up from Colchester specially to exhibit their powers. The first part of the programme was merely the old tilting in the ring, known as Quintain revived. Three bamboo staves were made fast in the ground. A hook was affixed in each case to a cross bar, and pendant from the hook was an iron ring. At these each of the troopers, armed with a hog spear, charges at full gallop, carrying off, in nearly every case, each of the rings on the end of his weapon. Then came the tent pegging, small wedges of cocoa palm, cramped with copper wire, and well soaked in water, being planted peg-wise in the ground. The object of the trooper is to carry off the peg, and on Saturday, after the men and horses had well warmed to their work, success and failure were pretty evenly balanced. There was a large and fashionable attendance to witness these novel trials of skill, among them being the Prince and Princess of Wales and two of their children, the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, the Duke of Connaught, the Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne, the Duchess of Manchester, the Russian Ambassador, Viscount Holmesdale, &c., &c. The band of the 2nd Life Guards played during the meeting; which drew from all assembled, the warmest eulogiums on the skill displayed by the gallant Irish. We have no doubt whatever, that the new sport will be fully as popular as Polo.

The chief event in the theatrical world has been the appearance of Signor Salvini in the rôle of Hamlet. The Italian version appears to be very incomplete, but there can be no doubt as to the excellent, though perhaps unequal rendering of the character by the great Italian. Theatre goers will now have an opportunity of comparing the fine impersonations of Mr. Irving, and Signor Salvini, and much valuable criticism will doubtless be the result of such comparison. The most gratifying feature in all this is the rapid reappearance on the stage of that high tone which characterised the acting of former days. With actors like Mr. Irving, Salvini, Herman Vezin, and others, and with managers like Mr. Hollingshead, there is no danger of the stage degenerating into a raree show.

One of the prettiest sights in London, and one which, once seen, is not likely to be forgotten, is the annual meeting of the Charity Children under the dome of St. Paul's. This interesting event came off on Thursday, when, perhaps, nearly two thousand were present. The appearance of the children, in their pretty holiday costume, is most picturesque, while the singing is most wonderful, considering there are no notes to guide them; the pieces, which invariably include the Hundredth Psalm and the Hallelujah Chorus from the *Messiah*, being splendidly rendered. Nor are the freshness and clearness of the young voices the least noticeable feature. Our R.W. Bro. the Lord Mayor with the Lady Mayoress were present, the sermon being preached by the Right Rev. the Bishop of Hereford.

This is the season of Annual Regimental Dinners, and the order of dining is in full vigour. The Second Life Guards held theirs at the Pall Mall Restaurant, on Thursday, and the same day the Scots Fusilier Guards performed their annual festivity at Willis's Rooms, St. James's. In each case there was a goodly muster of past and present officers of the two regiments. To-day the Celer et Audax Club, the 60th Rifles, will dine together at the Pall Mall, H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge being in the chair.

On Thursday, the Annual Festival of the Licensed Victuallers' Asylum was held in the Alexandra Palace. Mr. O. E. Coope, M.P., presided, and over 2,600 gentlemen were present, amongst whom were Messrs. Wheelhouse, Charley, Samuda, Forsyth, Gordon, and several other M.P.'s and influential gentlemen. The chairman, in proposing the toast of the evening, mentioned several interesting matters, showing the number of houses had risen from 126 in 1858 to 170. In 1858 the expenses were £4,000 per annum, while they had now reached over £7,000, the subscriptions averaging less than £3,000 per annum. The toast was drunk with great enthusiasm, and later in the evening, the Secretary, Mr. A. L. Annett, announced that the aggregate of subscriptions was £5,500, towards which the Chairman contributed 500 guineas, and Messrs. Ind, Coope and Co. a similar amount.

There is little foreign news to communicate, except the sudden death of M. Charles de Remusat, the French Academician, which occurred, not unexpectedly, on Thursday, having caught cold a few evenings since on leaving the

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theatre. The Press all over the Continent is hotly discussing the recent speech of the Earl of Derby in the House of Lords and the action of the British Government in allaying the very uncomfortable relations recently existing between France and Germany. Many of these comments are favourable, but no small proportion of them exhibit a most unfriendly spirit towards this country. We can grin and bear, however, particularly as all this newspaper fuss about us is proof that we have something to say for ourselves. We regret we cannot as yet announce that the Pope has publicly apologised for his late very violent attack on Freemasonry. We are on the look out for one, and shall receive it right cordially when it does come. It cannot be long before his Holiness will discover that his recent edict was a silly bull. Meantime, our respected Bro. John Bull bears himself calmly under these somewhat trying circumstances.

The Musical Committee of the Royal Masonic Festival for the Boys' School met on Wednesday, the 2nd inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street. Bros. Rosenthal, H. M. Levy, Dubosc, Montague and Webster reported that Madame Thaddeus Wells had been selected to provide the music. The artistes selected were Miss Josephine Sherrington, Madame Poole, Mr. Henry Guy, Bro. George Fox, Bro. Farquharson; solo violin—Madame Thaddeus Wells; Bro. Henry Parker would accompany on the piano. The Committee of Stewards then met, and Bro. Rucker P.G.D. occupied the chair. Bro. F. Binckes, Secretary, read the report of the former meeting. Bro. Marsh proposed that a sum of five guineas be added to the sum of thirty-five guineas for the purpose of providing the music for the Festival. Bro. Montague then occupied the chair, and Bro. Binckes said that the return of stewards and ladies tickets should be made by the 28th of June, the ballot for places to be left to the members of the Board. The chairman then exhibited a plan of the building, showing the admirable manner accommodation could be provided for the brethren and ladies, who would be entirely separated from the general public. Bros. Bertram and Roberts had informed the Board that they would in every respect carry out the wishes of the Board of Stewards. Bro. F. Binckes then said that a letter had been received from H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., saying he was satisfied with the brethren wearing Masonic clothing, provided it was exhibited only within the precincts of the building. The M.W.G.M. had also sanctioned the change of the date to the 7th July. The annual distribution of prizes will take place on the 30th of June, on which occasion the M.W. the Earl of Carnarvon will preside. The next meeting was proposed for Monday, the 28th June, at five o'clock. Bro. H. M. Levy proposed a vote of thanks to Bro. Montague, acting vice President, which was carried unanimously.

Messrs. Feltoe and Sons, the importers of the "Specialite" Sherry, have taken possession of their new premises in Albemarle Street, opposite the Royal Institution.

The Consecration of the Chislehurst Lodge No. 1531, will take place on Friday, the 11th June, at one o'clock p.m. at the Bull Inn, Chislehurst. Bro. John Coutts P.G.P. P.M. 27, P.M. 1310, 1348 is the W.M. designate; G. F. Guest 1275 S. W. designate, and Bro. W. W. Kipps 79, 1275, 1310, 1314 is the J.W. designate. The ceremony of Consecration and Installation will be performed by the R.W. Jas. S. Eastes D.P.G.M. Kent, assisted by Bros. Jas. Terry P.M. 228, 1278, 1366, P.G.D.C. Herts, Rev. W. A. Hill P.G.C., Rev. T. Robinson P.G.S.W., W. Page G.J.W., A. Spencer P.G.S. The musical arrangements will be under the direction of Bro. W. Kipps.

Bro. the Rev. Dr. Charles Gordon Cumming Dunbar, son of Sir Archibald Dunbar, of Northfield, Bart., and Chaplain to Bishop Claughton, has been appointed Archdeacon of Grenada, in the West Indies. The Archdeacon, accompanied by his family, sails for Grenada on the 17th of June.

The committee of the Domatic Lodge, No. 177, met on Saturday, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, for the purpose of making arrangements for their summer festival, when it was decided that it should be held at the Greyhound Hotel, Dulwich. Dinner to take place at 3-30, and ladies and non Masons, friends of the brethren, be invited. The usual vote of thanks was accorded to the chairman.

THE GREAT PICTURE OF THE INSTALLATION.

Bro. E. J. Harty's fine sketch for the above, was exhibited in the Grand Officers' Room, at the Grand Lodge held on Wednesday evening, and received the highest commendation. A magnificent steel engraving, worthy of that historic event, is to be executed. We advise brethren who wish to perpetuate the fact of their presence, by their portraits in this great picture, to send their photos at once to Bro. Harty, at 9 Barnard's Inn, Holborn, or to his agents, Spencer and Co., Great Queen Street. The sketch is about to be submitted to the M.W. Grand Master, for His Royal Highness's inspection and approval. The estimated cost of its production is about £2,000.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

The following statement shows the receipts for traffic on the undermentioned railways for the past week, as compared with the corresponding week in 1874:—

Railway.	Miles open. 1875	Receipts. 1875 £	1874 £
Caledonian	737½	58,240	55,822
Glasgow and South Western	315½	18,458	17,711
Great Eastern	763	43,665	53,883
Great Northern	523	54,670	50,368
Great Western	1,525	105,667	111,093
Lancashire and Yorkshire	430	66,463	90,078
London and Brighton	376½	44,764	34,074
London, Chatham and Dover	153½	19,028	20,386
London and North Western	1,582½	176,062	183,504
London and South Western	626½	43,407	46,676
London, Tilbury and Southend	45	3,294	2,477
Manchester and Sheffield	259½	31,945	31,441
Midland	956½	102,665	122,348
Metropolitan	8	9,343	9,205
" " District	8	5,421	4,634
" " St. John's Wood	1½	502	533
North British	839	44,239	40,391
North Eastern	1,393	116,714	117,191
North London	12	7,270	7,856
North Staffordshire Railway	190	8,924	11,696
" " Canal	118	1,619	1,112
South Eastern	350	34,621	41,029

The returns of many of the above for 1874 include Whit week.

An Eminent Freemason.—At this moment, when Freemasonry has to defend itself, it may be new for a certain section of the clerical press to learn that their model champion, the fidus Achates of the Comte de Chambord, the late Berryer, was a free and accepted Mason. Marseilles has just inaugurated a statue to this eminent man's memory, whom foes vie with friends to honour. In 1830, when Berryer addressed the Chambers, a deputy observed, "What talent!" "Rather, what power!" replied Royer-Collard. Some thirty years later, on the termination of his speech in defence of Jeufosse, the President in vain demanded silence. "It is the talent we applaud," exclaimed a spectator. "Say the heart," interrupted Berryer. Power and heart, such constituted his character. When he gained the famous process Dehors, the latter, on being liberated, accompanied by his son and daughter, brought all his savings and called to settle Berryer's fees. Berryer received and thanked him for the money, and requested, in return, to provide something for the education of the children. He then counted the banknotes just handed him in equal portions, and begged their acceptance—for the boy and girl.

Arab Character.—The Bedouin Arab has some fine qualities. He has warm family affections, particularly to his mother; he is kind to his horse, hospitable to his friends, and to strangers also, to the utmost of his power; but, like most who belong to wild nomad tribes, he is given to plunder without scruple, and even looks on it as his right to plunder settled inhabitants of corn, etc., and travellers of their goods, and even of their clothes, unless they are under the special protection of his own chief or of one on friendly terms with his own, in which cases he is quite faithful. He is revengeful to his enemies, tyrannical to his wife, and bigoted to his religion—while at the same time careless of its observances; one of a party often been seen reciting the customary Moslem prayers at sunset, etc., while all the others are chatting or attending to their camels, apparently thinking one was proxy for the rest. Very few can read, and those who can, usually possess and desire only one book, or rather part of a book; for their whole library often consists of a portion of the Koran, written in a large hand, in a large thin volume bound in red leather. An Arab cares little for instruction, and is self-righteous to a degree. —*Sunday at Home.*

A Simple Faith.—We do not aver that Masonry will save us from our sins, but we do declare it as our firm conviction that we can bring many of our fallen race from the ways and vanities of the world, and present them as greatly improved in their moral natures and ready for the Master to breath upon them the spirit of His saving grace.

De La Rue's International Playing Cards.—Portraits of the Royalty of Europe. Post free, 2s 6d. W. W. Morgan, 57 Barbican, London, E.C.

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DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be greatly obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the kingdom would favour us with a copy of their summonses each time of issue.

SATURDAY, 5th JUNE.

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

R. A. 975—Rose of Denmark, Star and Garter, Kew.

1458—Truth, Royal Archer Inn, Manchester.

MONDAY, 7th JUNE.

16—Royal Alpha, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.
45—Strong Man, Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell Green, at 8 (Instruction).
188—Joppa, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
1319—Asaph, Freemasons' Hall.

37—Anchor and Hope, Freemasons' Hall, Bolton.
113—Unanimity, Bull Hotel, Preston.
119—Sun, Square and Compasses, Freemasons' Hall, Whitehaven.
154—Unanimity, Masonic Hall, Wakefield, Yorks.
251—Loyal, Freemasons' Hall, Barnstaple.
303—Benevolent, Masonic Hall, Teignmouth.
381—Harmony and Industry, New Inn, Over Darwen.
395—Guys, Crown Hotel, Leamington.
431—St. George's, Masonic Hall, Shields.
804—Carnarvon, Town Hall, Havant.
850—St. Oswald, Assembly Rooms, Ashbourne.
1009—Shakespeare, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
1045—Stamford, Town Hall, Altrincham.
1051—Rowley, Athenæum, Lancaster.
1064—Southam, Railway Hotel, Wilmslow.
1077—Wilton, Red Lion Hotel, Blackley, near Manchester.
1311—Goderich, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
1228—Beaconitree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
1239—Wentworth, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
1302—De Warren, Masonic Hall, Halifax, Yorks.
1354—Marquis of Lorne, Masonic Rooms, Leigh.
1519—Albert Edward, Albion Hotel, Clayton-le-Moors.

R. A. 380—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Morley.
R. A. 605—De Tabley, Seacombe Hotel, Seacombe.
R. A.—Liverpool, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.

TUESDAY, 8th JUNE.

167—St. John's, Holly Bush Tavern, Hampstead.
834—Ranelagh, Clarendon Arms Hotel, Hammersmith.
1269—Stanhope, Thicket Hotel, Anerly.

R. A. 145—Prudent Brethren, Freemasons' Hall.

80—St. John's, Masonic Hall, Sunderland.
93—Social, Freemasons' Hall, Norwich.
241—Merchants, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
371—Perseverance, Freemasons' Hall, Maryport.
465—Wakefield, Masonic Hall, Wakefield.
495—Peace and Harmony, Masonic Rooms, St. Austell, Cornwall.
503—Belvidere, Star Hotel, Maidstone.
603—Zetland, Royal Hotel, Cleckheaton.
628—Lansdowne Lodge of Unity, Town Hall, Chippenham.
723—Panmure, Wellington Hotel, Aldershot.
764—Harbour of Refuge, Masonic Hall, West Hartlepool.
903—Gosport, India Arms Hotel, Gosport.
1213—Bridgewater, Cross Keys Hotel, Eccles.

R. A. 289—Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
R. A. 348—St. John, Three Tuns' Hotel, Bolton.
R. A. 501—Buckingham, George Hotel, Aylesbury.
R. A. 731—Grosvenor, Bar's Hotel, Chester.
M.M. 23—St. Andrews, Masonic Rooms, Rochdale.

WEDNESDAY, 9th JUNE.

Committee, Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.
1017—Montefiore, Freemasons' Hall.
1230—Hervey, Freemasons' Hall.
1305—St. Marylebone, Eyre Arms, St. John's-wood.

54—Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Rochdale.
84—Doyles Lodge of Fellowship, Masonic Hall, Guernsey.
146—Antiquity, Bull's Head Inn, Bolton.
191—St. John, Knowsley Hotel, Bury.
204—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
281—Fortitude, Athenæum, Lancaster.
298—Unity, Freemasons' Hall, Rochdale.
430—Fidelity, Queen's Arms, Dukinfield.
661—Fawcett, New Masonic Hall, Seaham Harbour.
708—Carnarvon, Mitre Inn, Hampton Court.
731—Arboretum, Arboretum Hotel, Derby.
851—Worthing Lodge of Friendship, Steyne Hotel, Worthing.
953—Zetland, Albert Hotel, Salford.
1006—Royal Albert Edward, Crown and Anchor Inn, Weston, near Bath.
1072—Saint Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury.
1078—Shakespeare, Freemasons' Hall, Bradford.
1082—Callender, Public Hall, Rusholme.
1094—Temple, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
1140—Ashton, White Hart Hotel, Cheadle.

R. A. 314—Royal Architect, Bull Hotel, Preston.
R. A.—De Tabley, Royal George Hotel, Knutsford.

THURSDAY, 10th JUNE.

193—Confidence, White Hart, Aldchurch Lane, at 7.30 (Instruction).
1216—Macdonald, Head Quarters 1st Surrey Volunteer Corps, Brunswick-road, Camberwell.
1475—Peckham, Victory Tavern, Old Kent-road.

Provincial Grand Lodge of Lincolnshire, under the Banner of Lodge No. 272, Assembly Rooms, Boston.
97—Palatine, Masonic Hall, Sunderland.
139—Royal Gloucester, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton.
139—Britannia, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
216—Harmonic, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool.
333—Royal Preston, Royal George Hotel, Fullwood.
349—Unanimity, Crown Hotel, Penrith.
477—Mersey, 55 Argyle-street, Birkenhead.
487—Portsmouth, Masonic Hall, Portsmouth.
[illegible]—Elias de Derham, Masonic Hall, Salisbury.
732—Royal Brunswick, Royal Pavilion, Brighton.
766—Created United Service, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
854—Albert, Duke of York Inn, Shaw, near Oldham.
949—Pelham, Corn Exchange, Worksop.
1035—Prince of Wales, Masonic Hall, Kirkdale.
1055—Derby, Knowsley Hotel, Cheetham, near Manchester.
1147—St. David, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.

R. A. 233—Wisdom, Bull's Head Inn, Haslingden.
R. A. 295—Love and Friendship, Macclesfield Arms, Macclesfield.
R. A. 509—Tees, Mason's Court, Stockton-on-Tees. (Installation.)
K. T.—Jerusalem, Masonic Hall, Manchester.

FRIDAY, 11th JUNE.

33—Britannic, Freemasons' Hall.
134—Caledonian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
1420—Earl Spencer, Freemasons' Hall, New Wandsworth.

R. A. 6—Friendship, Willis's Rooms, King-street, St. James's.

64—Fortitude, Queen's Hotel, Manchester.
155—Perseverance, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
170—All Souls, Masonic Hall, Weymouth.
177—Domatic, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
456—Aire and Calder, Ouse-street, Goole.
697—United, George Hotel, Colchester.
815—Blair, Town Hall, Hulme.
1001—Harrogate and Claro, Masonic Rooms, Harrogate.
1121—Wear Valley, Talbot Hotel, Bishop Auckland.

R. A. 137—Amity, Masonic Hall, Poole.

SATURDAY, 12th JUNE.

176—Caveac, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
1361—United Service, Greyhound, Richmond.
1446—Mount Edgcumbe, Swan Tavern, Bridge-road, Battersea.

203—Prince George, Bottoms, Eastwood.

K. T.—Faith, Masonic Rooms, Wigan.

IRELAND.

MONDAY—1—First Lodge of Ireland, Masonic Hall, Cork.
" 116—Carlow, Masonic Hall, Dublin-street, Carlow.
" 122—Patrick's, Masonic Hall, Dungannon, co. Tyrone.
TUESDAY—8—St. Patrick, Masonic Hall, Cork.
WEDNESDAY—217—Tyrrawley, 4 Dillon Terrace, Ballina.
THURSDAY—20—Light of the West, Grand Jury Room, Sligo.
" 248—Roscommon, Court House, Roscommon.
" 353—Castleblaney, Castleblaney, Monaghan.
" 411—Drogheda, Masonic Hall, Drogheda.
FRIDAY—178—St. John, Castle-street, Lisburn, co. Antrim.
" 311—Magherafelt, Court House, Magherafelt, co. Derry.
SATURDAY—13—Antient Union, Masonic Hall, Limerick.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—429—St. Kentigern, Royal Hotel, Penicuik.
TUESDAY—1—Mary's Chapel, Waterloo Hotel, Waterloo-place.
WEDNESDAY—2—Canongate, Kilwinning-street, St. John's Chapel, St. John-street.
" R. A. 1—Edinburgh, Freemasons' Hall.
THURSDAY—6—Journeymen, Blackfriars-street, High-street.
FRIDAY—56—Canongate, Kilwinning-street, St. John's Chapel, St. John's-st.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Strong Man Lodge of Instruction.—This Lodge held their regular weekly meeting at the Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell Green, at 7 p.m. on Monday last. Bro. Beckett, Preceptor, presiding. The fifteen sections were admirably worked by Bros. Pearcy, Killick, Defries, Gross, Sadler, Tolmie, Beckett, and Saul. Bros. Killick P.M. 781, Steadman P.M. 754, and Gross 1278, were elected joining members. A vote of thanks was unanimously accorded the brethren and members of other Lodges who had assisted in working the sections, and also to the W.M. for the able manner in which he had presided.

Lodge of Industry, No. 48, Gateshead-on-Tyne.—The regular meeting of this old and exceedingly prosperous Lodge was held in Freemasons' Hall, West Street, on Monday evening, 24th May, at 7 o'clock. The Lodge was opened by Bro. Richd. Gregory W.M., and following officers, viz.:—Bros. J. D. Stephens S.W., Thos. Allison J.W., J. G. Waddington S.D., M. Corbett J.D., R. Terry Org., J. H. Rowell I.G., J. T. Smith S.S., R. Whitfield J.S. (who also acted as Secretary, in the absence of Bro. D. Sinclair), C. O. Gay A.S., J. Curry Tyler, John Edw. Robson I.P.M. and Treasurer, R. F. Cook M.D. M. of C. and P.P.G.S.D. Durham. There was a goodly attendance on the part of the members and visiting brethren, amongst whom were Bros. A. Harkness P.M. 48 Prov. G.S.D., W. E. Franklin P.M. 424 G.S.D., Benjamin Frazer 48, M. T. Plotnicki 48, T. Hopkins 48, T. Sinclair 48, B. Smith 48, W. Whitfield 48, John Wood 48, Robt. Brason 48, Wm. Daglish 48 and 97, John G. Robertson 48, F. P. Joun P.M. 48, Jos. Cook W.M. 481, Thos. Blenkinsop P.M. 541, R. Smaile P.M. 541, T. Best 541, B. Dewar 541. The minutes of last regular Lodge and Lodge of Emergency held 10th May, having been read and confirmed, and ballots taken, Mr. Edward Liddell was admitted, and duly initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry, by Bro. John Edw. Robson I.P.M., in a most impressive manner. Bros. Sadanski, Harrison and J. W. Robertson were passed to the F.C. degree, in an able manner, by Bro. A. Harkness P.M. Bros. Jackson, Hewitt, Grieves and Mendelssohn where raised to the sublime degree of M.M. by Bro. John Edw. Robson I.P.M. The W.M., then closed the Lodge down to the first degree. Five candidates were proposed for initation, and two brethren as subscribing members. The W.M., on behalf of the subscribers, members of the Lodge, then presented Bro. John Edw. Robson the I.P.M. with a P.M.'s jewel of exquisite workmanship, as a mark of their appreciation of his services, not only when Master of the Lodge, but in various other offices, and concluded an able speech by wishing the I.P.M. long life to wear the jewel, health, wealth and prosperity; also, that the time may be far distant when his (the I.P.M.) connection with Lodge 48 should cease. Bro. Robson acknowledged the presentation in very feeling terms, and said he would ever be grateful to the brethren, and wear the beautiful jewel with becoming pride. He did not attach so much elation to it on account of its intrinsic value as the good feeling he found manifested towards himself, and the desire of the brethren to regard any little services which he may have rendered the Lodge, and it should be an incentive to him to continue working for old "48" to the best of his abilities. It is said, "that brevity is the soul of wit," with him that evening he was brief, not owing to wit, but because no language could find words to express his appreciation of their kindness. The jewel bears the following inscription at back:—"Presented by the brethren to Bro. John Edw. Robson P.M., as a mark of esteem, May 1875," also in front, "Industry Lodge 48." The Lodge was closed at 10

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o'clock, when the brethren adjourned to the banqueting-hall, where they partook of refreshment, and passed the remainder of the evening in social harmony, the glees and part songs being performed by the choir in a masterly style. The usual toasts were given, "The Queen," "Prince of Wales," "Rest of Royal Family," "The newly Initiated," "Visitors." The I.P.M. proposed the health of the W.M., who, in reply, thanked the brethren for the kind manner in which it had been proposed and received, and hoped he would hand over to his successor the affairs of the Lodge in the same satisfactory state as it had been by previous Masters. He had a very important duty to perform yet, which was to propose the health of his officers, and in doing so it was a matter of great pleasure to state that all the officers were present except one (and that was their worthy Secretary, through illness). He would couple with it the name of Bro. Dr. R. F. Cook P.M. M. of C. The M.C., in returning thanks, thought that the fact of all the officers being present to fill their respective positions should be very gratifying to the W.M., as indeed every Master who had passed through that chair knew what a great assistance it was while giving the degrees to have every officer at his post, and able to do his duty. He was glad to find the W.M. so well supported at the Installation of the Prince of Wales, that magnificent ceremonial, which took place in the Albert Hall on 28th April. A scene which no one who had been present would ever forget. It was also gratifying to find the Province of Durham enjoying so good a position, especially "48," which was close to the throne, and he trusted the officers would show themselves worthy of the name of "48" by their industry. He had now to refer to the name of one who had worked willingly and well in the cause of Freemasonry and the interests of this Lodge, Bro. John Ed. Robson their I.P.M. and Treasurer. In attaching to his breast that evening the presentation jewel, while they were doing him an honour, they were also performing a duty, and he had now great pleasure in proposing the toast of the I.P.M. Bro. J. E. Robson said he now found himself in one of the most unpleasant situations in which a man could possibly get, viz.:—that of replying to a toast on the occasion of a presentation, because in proposing that toast it was customary, in fact he might say it was the rule, to speak of all the good qualities and say nothing about the bad. Our good Bro. Dr. Cook had done so on this occasion. What little he (the I.P.M.) had done was without doubt appreciated by the brethren, but he had done no more than was his duty, and in keeping with the first obligation and charge in Masonry. The jewel with which he had been presented he should always look upon with pleasure and as an heirloom. The W.M. proposed "Our next Merry Meeting," which terminated another of the many happy and harmonious meetings of this ancient Lodge. This Lodge was represented at the Installation of H.R.H the Prince of Wales by Bros. Rd. Gregory W.M., J. E. Robson I.P.M., A. Harkness P.M. Prov. G.S.D., R. F. Cook P.M. P.P.G.S.D., J. H. Thompson P.M. P.P.G.S.B., W. E. Franklin P M. 424 P.P.G.D., J. D. Stephen S.W., Thos. Allison J.W., R. Whitfield M.M. The Provincial Grand Master of Durham, John Fawcett, Esq., acted as Deputy Grand Master, and Bro. Wm. Hy. Crookes Prov. G. Sec., and Bro. John Bailey P.P.J.G.W. as Stewards, for the Province of Durham.

The Lodge of Light, No. 148.—The regular meeting was held on the 31st May, at the Masonic Rooms, Warrington. Present: Bros. John Bowes P.M. P. Prov. G. Reg. W.M., W. H. Robinson S.W., Thomas Tunstall J.W., W. H. Spring as S.D., John R. Young J.D., C. E. Hindley I.G., James Hannah Tyler, David Wilkins Secretary. Past Masters Bros. John Harding, W. Richardson and Mossop. Visitors Bros. J. R. Tomlinson W.M. 368, R. Brierley W.M. 1250, P. J. Edelston W.M. 1134, Edward Aston S.W. 758, Jno. Lightburn Org. 758. Business transacted:—The minutes read and confirmed. The W.M. reported the election of Bro. Robt. Gibbons as an annuitant of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. The ballot was taken for Mr. James Paterson, and, being favourable, he was initiated by the W.M. The working tools were explained by the J.W., and the charge was most impressively given by the S.W. Fraternal wishes were tendered by the visitors, and after some routine business the Lodge was closed.

Joppa Chapter, No. 188.—The regular Convocation of this Chapter was held on Monday, 31st inst., at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate Street, City. Comps. H. M. Levy M.E.Z., E. S. Jones P.Z. as H., S. Pollitzer P.S. as J., S. V. Abrahams P.Z. Treasurer, P. Dickinson S.E., L. Lazarus S.N., S. Jacobs P.S.; P.Z.'s S. Lazarus, E. P. Albert, Pollitzer, Grunebaum, Rosner, and Comps. Klein, J. Lyon, Moore, L. Auerhaan, Mellish, Barnett, Abrahams, &c. The Chapter was opened and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. Klingenstein No. 79, J. McCarthy No. 9, Dr. Corrie Jackson, Polish National Lodge, No. 534, and Grove Ellis, No. 188, were proposed. The three former brethren being in attendance, were duly exalted into Royal Arch Masonry by Comp. Littaur P.Z., in a very perfect and careful manner. Election of Principals resulted as follows: Comps. M. Emanuel Z., M. J. Emanuel H., S. V. Abrahams P.Z. Treasurer, P. Dickinson S.E., L. Lazarus S.N., L. Jacobs P.S. The M.E.Z. moved in pursuance of notice of motion, that companions residing beyond a distance of ten miles from Freemasons' Tavern should be elected country members, and also that the annual subscription for country members be 12s 6d, payable in advance, and the sum of 7s 6d be paid on each occasion of their attending the banquet, which motions were unanimously carried. Comp. S. V. Abrahams P.Z. then proposed that a sum of £2 2s as a nucleus should be given to the retiring M.E.Z., Comp. H. M. Levy, for the purpose of presenting him with a jewel, the brethren to be at liberty to subscribe to it, as a mark of esteem. This proposition was liberally responded to. The Chapter was then closed until November. The companions adjourned to an excellent banquet, provided by Companion W. G. Jennings. The M.E.Z. proposed the usual Loyal and R.A. toasts, including that of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as M.E.G.Z., and the rest of the Grand Officers, which were enthusiastically received. The M.E.Z., in proposing the toast of the "Newly Exalted," alluded to the attention those companions had paid to the ceremony. He was pleased to see them, and believed they would eventually become a credit to the Order. Comps. McCarthy, Klingenstein, and Dr. C. Jackson, having in able terms responded, the Toast of the Visitors followed, which was replied to by Comp. J. Rosenthal, late S.N. 188. Bro. Spencer, No. 73, was also present as a visitor. The Toast of the M.E.Z. was then given, and the toast of the newly elected Z. followed. The W.M., in the course of his remarks, stated that although he was unable to be present owing to having met with an accident, yet from what the companions had seen of his working, he was one who would in every sense be able to perform the duties of the Chapter. The M.E.Z. then proposed the toast of the acting H. and J., Companions Littaur P.Z. and S. Pollitzer P.Z. who had filled the offices and had worked the ceremonies to the satisfaction of the companions, exaltees and visitors. This toast having been duly responded to, the M.E.Z. proposed the health of the P.Z.'s, and remarked the honour that had been accorded the Chapter by the election from among its members of Comp. E. P. Albert, who had been selected to fill the office of Assistant Grand Pursuivant, also Comp. S. V. Abrahams P.Z. as the Treasurer. Those companions had not only been able, but willing to give their services to the Chapter. The health of the re-elected S.E., Comps. Dickinson, L. Lazarus S.N. and L. Jacobs P.S., and the Janitor's toast concluded a very agreeable evening. The harmony was contributed to by Comps. Davis and Abrahams.

St. John's Lodge, No. 178, Ireland.—At a meeting held on 14th May last, at Freemasons' Hall, Castle Street, Lisburn, there were present Bros. Arthur Mussen P.M. as W.M., Mercer Rice P.M. as S.W., William Wilson P.M. as J.W., William J. Gilliland S.D., William Johnston P.M. as J.D., John Vernon I.G., J. Stuart Tyler, John Higginson Secretary and Treasurer. Past Masters—Bros. John McBride, Wm. J. Knox, Alexander Boyd, and R. M. Tilly, and Bros. Dr. Hunter, Dr. Jefferson, R. J. Nelson, R. McKee, and J. Pryde. The Lodge was opened in the 1st degree, and the minutes having been read and confirmed, Mr. Wm. J. Knox jun. was initiated. On the motion of Bro. McBride the initiation and transfer fees of the Lodge were raised to 5 guineas and 3 guineas respectively, which includes current half-year's dues. The Lodge was afterwards closed in ancient form. The visitors were Bros. Bernard Good 609, James Darling 384, James Roberts 226, A. Gaffikin 226, George Elliot 240.

Lodge of Joppa, No. 188.—An Emergency meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, the 1st June, at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate Street, City. Bro. S. Hickman W.M., L. Alexander P.M. as S.W., L. Lazarus J.W., L. Auerhaan Treasurer, E. P. Albert P.M. A.G.P. Secretary, Miller S.D., M. Spiegel as I.G., P. E. Van Noorden Organist J.D., H. Hymans D.C. Past Masters E. Hunt, H. M. Levy, M. Alexander, and Bros. Goldman, H. P. Isaac, Botibol, J. Hertzberg, Cashel, Fitchett, Rosier, Hulbuth, &c. The Lodge was opened. The W.M. then passed Bros. Lisson, Davis, Lindenbaum, and Sessel. Raised Bros. Rutherford, Myers, and Louisson. Ballots were then taken for the admission of Messrs. J. Botibol, J. Bitton, W. Dixon, C. Snelling, and A. Rogers, who were duly initiated into the Order. The W.M. performed the three ceremonies very carefully and perfectly. Bro. Hunt P.M., by the courtesy of the W.M., initiated Mr W. Dixon. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren separated. The visitors were Bros. W. Lovegrove 249, Perryman 3, J. Hardell 1348, Bendell 65.

Samaritan Lodge, No. 283.—At the meeting held on the 27th May 1875, at the Green Man Hotel, Bacup, there were present, —Bros. Westray Benn W.M., James Pilling S.W., Henry Taylor J.W., Robert Crossley S.D., James Howorth J.D., William Fletcher I.G., John Earnshaw Tyler, Nicholas Chadwick Secretary. Past Master Bro. John Taylor P.G.P. The hearty congratulations of the Lodge were presented to Bro. John Taylor P.M. upon his appointment to the office of Prov. G.P. It was reported that since the last meeting Bro. John Earnshaw, the oldest member of the Lodge, and who had attained his 74th year, had been elected an annuitant, for £36, upon the funds of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons. The W.M., after the Lodge business had been transacted, entertained the meeting with an interesting account of the ceremony of the Installation of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales as the Most Worshipful Grand Master of England, at the Royal Albert Hall, and which he attended as one of the representatives of the Lodge. A most agreeable evening was spent.

Hope and Charity Lodge, No. 377, Kidderminster.—At the regular meeting, held on 31st May, Bros. J. E. Stone, Thos. Blagborough and Jas. Dugard were raised to the sublime degree, the ceremony being very impressively performed by the W.M. Bro. B. Woodward. On the Lodge being closed down to the first degree, the W.M. resigned his chair to Bro. Jas. Fitzgerald P.M. who initiated Mr. Wm. Harvey (a Lewis). After the ceremony Bro. Fitzgerald thanked the W.M. for having afforded him the gratification of initiating Mr. Harvey, as he had initiated, passed, and raised the candidate's father in this Lodge some years ago. Nothing further offering for the good of Masonry in general or this Lodge in particular, the same was closed in due form, and with prayer.

Loyal Lodge of Industry, No. 421, South Molton.—The brethren of this Lodge met at their unique building, the Freemasons' Hall, South Molton, on Tuesday last. Bro. R. Snow jun. the W.M. occupied the chair. There were also present Bros. Rev. H. Gawthrop Chaplain 421 and P.M. 241, R. Page I.G., Bickell D.C.,

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J. Kingdon Secretary, J. A. Kingdon P.M. and Treasurer, W. Cole P.M. and P.P.G.P., J. T. Widgery P.M., W. Davy, W. Mountjoy, J. R. Kingdon O.G. Brother Treasurer reported he had, in pursuance of the power delegated to him on the last Lodge night, made enquiries from Bro. Pearse, the W.M. of the Dawlish Lodge 261, and from the information received, had considered the case of the brother for whom he had undertaken to raise a subscription, one to which aid might be given, and had forwarded a sum of 15s. The action of the Treasurer was approved, but some of the brethren thought in no similar instance of the kind ought strangers to be relieved in future. This was the first Lodge night for the year on which there had been no candidates for initiation, raising, or passing. Bro. Cole then proposed, and Bro. W. Mountjoy seconded, a gentleman of that town, who was fully approved of, to be balloted for, and if elected, initiated on the next Lodge night. The W.M. read a communication from Bro. the Rev. Thos. Russell, the W.M. elect of the Bideford Lodge, No. 489, inviting the W.M., P.M.'s and Wardens to the ceremony of his installation on the 17th inst. The Secretary was ordered to reply thereto, thanking Bro. Russell for his kind invitation, but that it was the second day of the South Molton Fair, and it was very improbable any of the brethren would be able to attend. The Lodge was closed in due form, when the brethren adjourned from labour to refreshment, and parted in peace and harmony at 9.30 p.m.

Fitzroy Lodge, No. 569.—An Emergency meeting was held on the 28th May, at Head Quarters, Artillery Company, Finsbury. Present — Bros. Griffiths Smith W.M., J. Graves S.W., W. I. Spicer J.W., R. G. Webster S.D., J. Everingham J.D., W. Jolliffe D.C., J. Everingham I.G., Woodstock Tyler, Capt. Joseph Egleso Secretary, Peter Matthews Treasurer. Past Masters Bros. H. J. Adams, W. H. Honey, Capt. Robert Helsham. Visitors—Bros. O. Coles, E. S. Norris, H. G. Buss, H. Bateman, C. E. Egleso, J. S. Attwood, G. Yaxley, J. Close, S. W. G. Brugmann, J. K. Stead. Bro. James Smith was raised to the third degree. During the evening Bros. Bateman, Attwood and Buss replied on behalf of the visitors.

Crescent Lodge, No. 788.—The installation meeting of this provincial and capital working Lodge was held on Tuesday, at the Ait Tavern, Twickenham. Bro. Col. F. Burdett, the R.W.G.M. for the Province, being present. Bro. H. D. Kennedy W.M. occupied the chair. Bros. G. Noon S.W., J. R. Stedwell P.M. J.W., F. Lane S.D., H. Mead J.D., F. McDougall I.G., and Past Masters S Larcombe, McDougall, G. Cordwell, J. C. Hester, and W. H. Thompson; Bros. Bowyer, J. Knight, E. T. Edwards and R. S. Beeton. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Messrs. T. J. Meeson and G. Hinchcliffe were duly initiated into the Order. A board of installed Masters was then formed, and Bro. G. Noon S.W. and W.M. elect, was presented to the Lodge, and the retiring W.M., Bro. H. D. Kennedy, installed him into the chair. The W.M. having been saluted according to ancient form, invested his officers as follow:—F. Lane S.W., Taylor J.W., Mead S.D., McDougall J.D., and Snooks I.G. The Lodge was then closed, and a banquet was provided by Mr. Mayo, whose catering gave great satisfaction, the wines and viands being of first-rate quality. Bro. Col. F. Burdett, R.W.G.M. Middlesex, presided at the banquet, where the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given and duly responded to. During the evening the retiring W.M., Bro. H. D. Kennedy, was presented with a very elegant gold P.M. jewel, with suitable inscription. The toasts of the visitors, officers, and the Tyler's toast concluded a very agreeable evening. The visitors were Bros. C. Jardine W.M. 140, G. Low P.M. 3, T. Weaver J.W. 820, C. Terry 3, R. W. South 704, S. H. Head, G. S. M. Corner 95, W. Colpoys 90, E. Downs 820, A. C. Wylie 869, and H. Rydon 820.

Finsbury Lodge, No. 861.—The Installation meeting was held on 28th of May, at the Rosemary Branch Tavern, Islington, N. Present—Bros. W. Meanwell W.M., F. Odell S.W., H. Thomas J.W., E. Legg S.D., W. Groome J.D., W. Mackey P.M. D.C., W. Stokes P.M. Steward, W. Lowles I.G., Speight Tyler, T. E. Purdy P.M. Secretary, G. Leach P.M. Treasurer. Past Masters Bros. Bond, Nicholl, Hart, R. Leach, Storey, Finch. Visitors—Bros. Main, Gabb jun., Thomans, Stean, Bruce, Reuter, Newell, Burton, &c. Business transacted—Raised Bros. Townsend and Marcham. Installed Bro. H. Thomas J.W. W.M., who appointed the following as his officers for the present year:—Bro. Odell S.W., Legg J.W., G. Leach Treasurer, T. E. Purdy Secretary, Groome S.D., Lawles J.D., Dagley I.G., Mackey D.C., Stokes Steward, Speight Tyler. Presented Bro. Meanwell I.P.M. with a handsome silver loving cup for past services. A splendid banquet followed, which was served in Bro. H. Gabb's usual style.

Gladsmuir Lodge, No. 1385.—A meeting was held on 28th of May, at the Red Lion Hotel, Barnet. Present — Bros. P.M. Lowthia in the chair, J. Cutbush S.W., J. Livingston J.W., Young S.D., Gray D.C., Paterson Organist, Goddard Tyler, G. Askew Hon. Secretary, P.M. Cutbush Treasurer, P.M. Wingham; Abbott, Enerby, Morgan, Humphreys, Yolland, Louttit, Allen and Newman. Visitor, Bro. Hickman. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The Lodge was opened to the 3rd degree, and routine business transacted. The Lodge was then resumed in the 1st degree, and Bro. Wingham P.M. gave the lecture on the tracing board. The brethren present were much gratified at the excellent manner in which this was delivered. A slight repast followed, and a pleasant evening was spent.

CAPTAIN BOYTON'S SECOND TRIP ACROSS THE CHANNEL.

ON Saturday morning last, Bro. Captain Boyton, after having been tossed for nearly twenty-four hours in the silvery streak which divides France from England, landed under our white cliffs, near the South Foreland Light, within gunshot of that castle which the old chronicler says was "ye verie locke and keye of ye whole realme of England."

The coast at Pan Bay is both wild and dangerous, for "rocks fringed by the flowers of the sea," and over whose ridges "the brown dank seaweed flaps," jut out from the mainland—and in the cliffs "discordant sea birds mock the laving foam" with their white breasts, while "hollow caverns echo back their shrieks." It was at this point of the Kentish coast that our hero landed at half-past two in the morning, after having been wave-whirled mid Channel, and battling manfully and successfully with its tides and currents, for a whole day and a night.

No one, after Captain Boyton's previous attempt to cross the Channel in his life-dress, doubted, for a single moment, either the efficacy or the value of his invention, nor the indomitable pluck which he displayed on that occasion; nevertheless, the gallant captain had made up his mind to thoroughly accomplish his self-imposed task, and he succeeded most perfectly, amid the deafening hurrahs of those gentlemen who, in the South Eastern Company's steamer "Ernest," had watched his progress from Cape Grisnez to Pan Bay.

From the moment when he entered the Channel on the French side, at three o'clock on the dull grey morning of Friday, notwithstanding that the sea was rough, there was but little doubt that he would accomplish his object; but it was never expected by those who watched him that the task would have been so long and tedious. For two hours, when about seven miles from the coast, he made but little progress, and the Channel seemed "to endeavour to keep master of the situation;" but the gallant captain rose with each advancing wave, and fought courageously, paddle in hand and sail on foot, disputing, inch by inch, the power of the tide to arrest his course.

The French people, who crowded the shore on his departure, were most enthusiastic. The bleak point of the coast was made visible by monster fires on the rocks, guns were let off, and rockets whizzed through the clammy air in honour of the occasion. The reception he met with at the completion of his journey was thoroughly English. A salute of ten guns was fired from the Pier-head at Dover, and Captain Jones, the Harbour Master of Folkestone, and a number of port officials, greeted Boyton as he stepped from the "Ernest" to the shore. In the afternoon he was entertained at a sumptuous banquet, favoured by the presence of the Hon. Mr. Byng, the Mayor, and many members of the Corporation, and John Shaw, Esq., the Manager and Secretary of the South Eastern Railway—in all about forty gentlemen.

Everything was done by Mr. Michael Boyton to enhance the pleasure of the trip, so far as the press representatives and other gentlemen were concerned; nevertheless, some of them did enjoy themselves more than others, although it may be said, with truth, that those who exerted themselves the least enjoyed themselves the most.

The journey was diversified by Mr. Samuel Plimsoll, M.P., exhibiting some extraordinary lights and storm signals.

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VOL. I.—No. 24. SATURDAY, 12th JUNE 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

THE DOMESTIC ARCHITECTURE OF THE MIDDLE AGES.

TO a Freemason who is interested in the archæology of the Craft, the domestic architecture of the middle ages is rich in materials for study and thought. To understand remote civilisation it is essential that we should know how the people were lodged, what were their domestic habits and manners, and to what extent the prevailing styles of architecture influenced the daily life of the cultivated classes. The historian has hitherto ignored archæology. He has been content to tell us of battles and sieges, or to retail the gossip or scandal of courts, but the materials which alone could afford an insight into the state of the people at any given period, have been held to be beneath the dignity of history. Macaulay was one of the first of historical writers who ventured to ignore these absurd canons of historic criticism, but his masterpiece is a mere fragment, and goes no further back than the reign of James II. We look in vain in more ambitious works for the details of the daily life of an Englishman 500 years ago, but happily the archæologist has come to our aid, and with his assistance much of the obscurity which has rested on this interesting subject is now being cleared away. Those amongst us who still believe in the "good old times," may perhaps carry away an erroneous impression from a mere superficial study of the domestic architecture of the middle ages. Evidence of the habits of the common people is difficult to find, since the dwellings in which they lived were mere hovels, which have not escaped the destroying hand of time. In the twelfth century, the period to which we refer, the middle classes had scarcely begun to exist. In walled cities, possessing charters, the citizen of the period was commonly a poor and mean person, whose dwelling was a mere den, built of timber and mud, and thatched with straw. There were no doubt a few wealthy merchants, who traded beyond the seas, and whose houses were built of more ambitious materials; but if we would learn aught of the manners and habits of the period, we must examine such remains of the manor houses of the nobles as time and the vandalism of ignorant persons have spared to us. Fortunately these remains are by no means scanty, and by their aid we may not only form a tolerable idea of the domestic habits of their original occupants, but some conception of the kind of work which was accomplished by the masons of the period. The custom of living and eating in common appears to have been a general practice with our Saxon and Norman ancestors, and accordingly the "Hall" was the principle, and indeed almost the only apartment in an ancient mansion. The Saxon nobles appear to have constructed their dwellings of timber, and in the more ambitious examples the Hall, with the kitchen, stables and sheds for the serfs, was surrounded by a fortified enclosure flanked by towers. The Norman castle of the twelfth century has been rendered familiar to us by the illuminated manuscripts of the period. Its lofty keep is still a marked feature of many a picturesque ruin, and the Hall often formed its chief apartment. We have, however, to deal with domestic rather than with military architecture. In the Hall the noble and his retainers took their meals in common. The furniture was of the rudest description, consisting merely of a few rough tables and benches, and the earthen or stone floor was strewn with straw or rushes. This primitive carpet was often in the foulest condition with the accumulated filfth of weeks or months, and when it had become too noisome for the seasoned nostrils of the inmates, it was usually carted away and used as manure. The retainers slept in the Hall, either on the tables and benches or upon the floor, while the lord and his lady occupied the only sleeping apartment in the mansion. This chamber, which was usually on the second story, was called the "solar" or "sollere," and the apartment beneath it on a level with the Hall was called the "cellar," and was used as such. The architecture of these mansions was of the most substantial kind; the masonry was always excellent, and the mouldings of the doors and windows were generally good. The roof was of open timber, substantially and artistically constructed, and in the earliest examples a central opening was provided for the escape of the smoke of the fire, which occupied the centre of the floor. The chimney appears to have been a very uncommon constructive feature in the dwellings of the period, but as wood was the chief, if not the only fuel used, the inconvenience arising from its absence was not much felt. Glass was a luxury which was but little known, and only sparingly used in Ecclesiastical buildings. The windows in the hall of a noble of the period were merely secured by strong shutters, and it was impossible to admit the light of heaven without permitting the rude winds of our boisterous climate to have free play through the apartment. At a later period, when glass came into fashion, the heads of the windows were glazed, but this luxury was only within reach of the richest of the upper classes. The masons who erected the halls and manor houses of the twelfth century appear to have been a wandering fraternity; and it would seem that they were intimately associated, and their work was, consequently, characterised by great uniformity. The mouldings and other details of the edifices they erected are all much alike, both in pattern and dimensions, and the carvings with which the heads of columns were enriched, present much uniformity of type. Writers on art, who insist upon "truth" as one of the essentials of good architecture, will be perhaps surprised to learn that the masons of the period did not scruple to use plaster and whitewash, while the decorator thought the additions of colour to stonework perfectly legitimate ornamentation. Towers decorated with bands of colour externally are frequently represented in the illuminated manuscripts of the period, and the specifications still existing amply prove that the internal walls of manor houses were gaily adorned with chromatic designs. The masons appear to have been separated into classes; there were cutters and sculptors of free-stone, and layers and setters. They worked either by the piece or for fixed daily wages. An inferior class of operatives were the "mud stickers," who filled up the framework of timber houses with mud or mud clay; in addition, there were the usual assistant labourers, excavators and barrow-men.

The remains of the mansions of the twelfth century rarely afford any traces of fortification in the strict sense of the term. The walls, indeed, were always of great thickness, but the high pitched roof was unfitted for defence, and it does not appear that any of the military features of domestic architecture was general before the thirteenth century. Licenses to embattle the walls of mansions are amongst the most frequent literary relics of this latter period, and the general anxiety which was displayed to adopt this, the then most effective means of fortifying a dwelling, is one of the collateral proofs of the disturbed state of society. The homes of the nobles now assumed the appearance of castles, for which they are often mistaken by ignorant tourists. The internal arrangements were much more complex than those which satisfied the wants of a former age. The hall was now no

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longer the only apartment. Storey was piled on storey, and from the flat roof the retainers, sheltered by the battlements, could discharge their arrows at an attacking force. Some very fine examples of domestic castellated architecture belong to this period. The habits of the upper classes had become more refined, and their dwellings were accordingly constructed to satisfy the requirements of the age. The manor house of this century frequently had its keep or principal tower, as well as embattled walls, and a moat or ditch was not an uncommon defensive feature. The windows, which were usually small, were sometimes glazed either wholly or in part. The chimney was now a common feature, and the fire place was usually characterised by great boldness and artistic truth. The walls of a common manor house were usually four or five feet thick, and the masonry was admirably put together. The mason aimed to make the buildings he erected as substantial as possible, and we could point to examples which, after existing for four centuries, are as sound and as strong as they were when the scaffolding was removed from the walls. It requires no prophetic insight to enable us to say that four centuries hence very few of the more ambitious structures of our time will be standing as monuments of the skill and honesty of the builders of this age.

CHARITY.

THE virtue we most pride ourselves upon is Charity, and not without reason. Our charitable institutions are a credit to the Order. To assist over two hundred aged or distressed brethren or their widows, to maintain a Girls' School of about one hundred and fifty pupils, and a Boys' School which numbers within one or two of one hundred and eighty, is evidence that Masons are not unmindful of their obligation to assist the necessitous brother and his family. For the maintenance of these institutions considerably over £20,000 are subscribed annually, and, in addition, a vast amount of help is afforded to deserving brethren whose circumstances are for the time being distressed. Thus, as regards this branch of charity, we may reasonably, and with honest pride, justify ourselves before all the world. But Charity has a far wider significance than that of mere almsgiving. Men bestow alms from various motives, and some without thought or motive. We hardly like condemning those who give of their superfluous means without hesitation or stint, but clearly those who give thoughtlessly or ostentatiously are not exactly charitable in the usual acceptation of the word. Again, a man may give freely and even liberally; there may be a method in the bestowal of his alms, which does credit to his judgment, and he may studiously avoid all display or semblance of display in giving. Yet for all this his charity, he may be the very reverse of a charitable man. We have no intention of inflicting a sermon on our readers, but a few remarks on the least showy, but by no means the least important elements in this virtue may not be deemed inappropriate. The scriptural exposition of charity is familiar enough to our readers, so that we need not reproduce it now, but it strikes us that one or two of the points on which the writer lays the chiefest stress do not receive their full amount of consideration. Without charity, we are told, the bestowal of all our worldly goods upon the poor is nothing worth. Charity, in fact, is a combination of admirable qualities. To use a very homely illustration, it is like one of those delicious beverages which are so much sought after at this season of the year. Each of the constituent parts is excellent in itself, but they must be blended together, carefully and scientifically, so that no one constituent shall be perceptible to the detriment of the others. So in the virtue of which we are speaking, and which we claim, with a certain sense of justice, to possess, we must be careful that all the properties which belong to it are duly represented. "Charity suffereth long," and is kind. Take for instance the case of some one who is popularly considered to possess some weakness or even vice. Strong in his knowledge that the charge is unjust, he pursues the even tenour of his way through life, always acting up to the principles he has laid down for his guidance, evincing no enmity towards those who think him not all he, seems to be never claiming any special merit for strictly abiding by this standard of duty, and always handy and willing to assist even those who malign him. He suffereth long, it may be not wholly without feeling, but certainly uncomplainingly, and in the end he is rewarded. The merit he possesses comes at length to be universally admitted, and his detractors are silenced. In this, as in all else, that he does, he is animated by one uniform sense of kindness, which recognises no distinction between friends and foes. There is no violence of language or demeanour towards those who differ with him. He is as considerate towards human frailty as towards human piety and devotion to duty. Again, the charitable man is not envious. Another is raised above him to some post of honour, but there is no soreness of feeling, no latent envy, at this preference over himself. He had sought the honour perhaps, and was worthy of it, but, some one else has been thought still worthier, and he yields contentedly to the choice. Then again charity, "thinketh no evil." Thus, experience tells us as plain men of the world that the ostensible is not always the real motive of a person's conduct, but the charitable man accepts it as such. It would never occur to him to attribute a good action to some unworthy motive. Nor does he feel aught but sorrow when misfortune overtakes a brother, even though the man's own folly may have induced it. There is no petty spite about him. He would far rather condole with the unfortunate and help him to repair his misfortune or folly. It is extreme meanness to chuckle over a man when he fails in his object or is alone in the world. The triumphant, "I told you so," "I foresaw the issue," may be an evidence of superior wisdom, but we pass over the wisdom, and think only of the spite that is shown.

There is human weakness among Masons as among other men. We can no more expect perfection in them than in others. But we have a right to expect that Masons shall approach more nearly to perfection, and for this reason; Masonry lays down certain special rules of life for the guidance of its members. These rules are very simple, and no more than every man, be he Mason or not, is bound to follow. But the one who enters our Order binds himself doubly, and in the most solemn manner, to their observance. It is a purely voluntary act on his part, this entrance into our Fraternity. No doubt the religion he professes enjoins upon him the practice of every virtue, the avoidance of every vice. But the duty of fulfilling these injunctions, of which charity in its widest sense is the most conspicuous, is certainly more imperative in the Mason, for as we have said before he voluntarily, and a second time, commits himself to their fulfilment. But, perhaps, we cannot close these few remarks better than by quoting a few lines from an eminent Masonic writer. Says Hutchinson, of Charity: "In order to exercise this virtue, both in the character of Masons and in common life, with propriety, and agreeable to good principles, we must forget every obligation but affection; for otherwise it were to confound charity with duty. The feelings of the heart ought to direct the hands of Charity. To this purpose we should be divested of every idea of superiority, and estimate ourselves as being of equality, the same rank and race of men; in this disposition of mind we may be susceptible of those sentiments which charity delighteth in, to feel the woes and miseries of others with a genuine and true sympathy of soul: Compassion is of heavenly birth; it is one of the first characteristics of humanity. Peculiar to our race, it distinguishes us from the rest of the creation." And again, of Brotherly Love, the same writer remarks: "The most material part of that brotherly love which should subsist among Masons, is that of speaking well of each other to the world; more especially it is expected of every member of his Fraternity, that he should not traduce his brother. Calumny and slander are detestable crimes against society. Nothing can be viler than to traduce a man behind his back; it is like the villany of an assassin, who has not virtue enough to give his adversary the means of self-defence, but, lurking in darkness, stabs him whilst he is unarmed, and has no suspicion of an enemy."

AN ULTRAMONTANE SQUIB.

OUR readers on both sides of St. George's Channel will estimate at its true worth the extract which we print below. It is culled from the columns of the *Freeman's Journal*, a paper whose recent attack upon Freemasonry we ventured to notice in our last impression. The *Freeman's Journal* has not improved in fairness and candour, and it is still indisposed to produce evidence in proof of its

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reckless assertions. It has the impudence to quote a second hand extract from Mr. Heckethorn's book on Secret Societies, and as the passage in question has already figured in the *Saturday Review*, as well as in the paper from which it has been "lifted" by our critic, we are fully assured that he has not even seen the outside of the work upon which he comments. Such tactics as these may be regarded as legitimate by an Ultramontane, but we are certain that no journalist of reputation would condescend to imitate them. Mr. Heckethorn's book, for aught the *Freeman's Journal* can tell, may be a mere tissue of misstatements, but since it is hostile to Masonry, our contemporary has seized upon it, or, rather, so much of it as could be obtained in a poor paragraph from the *Pall Mall Budget*, and has flung his miserable squib into our camp. We assure the *Freeman's Journal* that the puny missile will not explode. Masons care little for the charges which may be trumped up against the Order by hostile prints. They are quite certain that Masons, as such, can never conspire against the government of any country. The moment a brother forgets or ignores his Civil allegiance he ceases to be a Mason. With respect to Mr. Heckethorn's assertion that the members of the Order are devoted to the pleasures of the table, we treat the assertion with the contempt it deserves. The *Freeman's Journal* evidently appears to think that a man who has dined well is likely to conspire against the State. Such an idea could only emanate from an ecclesiastic, and perhaps, after all, we shall not be far wrong in assuming that our critic wears the tonsure, and lives on pulse and water.

One often has to listen to shallow people who, with a great assumption of superior knowledge and wisdom, discourse confidently about the difference between the action of Freemasonry on the Continent, which has so often brought the society under the ban of the Holy See, and its operations in these kingdoms were, we are assured, it is "just for good fellowship, pleasant company, giving a fellow a lift," and no more. The deceitful nature of this view may be gathered from a summary which appears in the *Pall Mall Budget* of the matter relating to this body collected in a recently published work on secret societies of all ages and countries.

After going through the secret societies of the Roman Empire and Middle Ages, the most important, perhaps, of which were the Assassins of Persia, the Holy Vehm, and the Rosicrucians, the eighth book of the work is full of the Freemasons, and occupies one-third of the first volume, the writing of which has clearly been a labour of love. Here the curious may eat of the forbidden tree of knowledge. The number of rites and the number of degrees in each—the York rite, the French rite, the Ancient and Accepted Scotch rite, the rites of Memphis and Mizaim, and twelve other rites, are all dangled before the eyes of the aspirant to aprons and jewellery. Their history, too, is searched out. The Freemasons have coquetted with politicians, and *vice versa*; they schemed for the Pretender and for and against Napoleon I. and Napoleon III., and these schemed against them. At the instigation of the First Napoleon, Cambacérès was made Grand Master Adjunct, and accumulated more Masonic titles than any other person ever possessed. Napoleon III. appointed one of his own Marshals—Magnan—as Grand Master, by a decree in 1862. But, after probing the mystery and the history of Masonry, the author (Mr. Heckethorn) comes to the melancholy conclusion that it is utterly futile. "Selfishness, an eye to business, vanity, frivolity, gluttony, and a love of mystery-mongering, concealed under the specious pretence of brotherly love and a longing for instruction—these are the motives that lead men into the Lodge."

This conclusion may be commended to the serious consideration of those who have a tawdry taste for gew-gaws and a flunkey appetite for the fraternal companionship (at a distance) of royal and ducal "Grand Masters." It was significant that, with the solemn views of religious duty which the Marquis of Ripon formed, he came out at once from the "vanity, frivolity, gluttony, and mystery-mongering" in which he had previously taken part.

GRAND CHAPTER OF PENNSYLVANIA.

WE have received the Abstract of the Proceedings of this Grand Chapter for the year 1874, and though but little that was eventful appears to have occurred during that period, there is evidence of health and prosperity throughout its entire jurisdiction. At the Quarterly Communication, held at Philadelphia, 5th Nov. 1874, were present Comp. Andrew Robeno jun. M.E. Grand High Priest, Comp. Robert H. Pattison M.E. Grand King, Comp. George E. Wagner M.E. Grand Scribe, Comp. Thorn R. Patton M.E. Grand Treasurer, Comp. John Thompson M.E. Grand Secretary, and several other Companions, Past G.H. Priests, &c., and representatives of twenty-six Chapters. The Committee on Finance reported that the receipts for the year ended 31st October 1874 (including balance in hand on November 1873 of 160 dols. 19 cents.), amounted to a fraction over 7,750 dollars, while the expenditure somewhat exceeded 7,148 dollars, leaving a balance in hand of over 601 dollars, to which a further sum was to be added of 11 dols. 80 cents, being the difference between what yet remained due to G. Chapter by subordinate Chapters, and what by subordinate Chapters to G. Chapter, making in all over 613 dollars. But appropriations already made for expenses to 27th December, showed a total of 912½ dollars, leaving a deficiency of nearly 300 dollars to be made good, in order to clear all indebtedness to the last-mentioned date. The investments of Grand Chapter amounting to 17,000 dollars, are all in New Masonic Temple Loan, 7$\frac{3}{10}$ interest. The estimate of receipts for the year 1875 reached a sum of over 7,142 dollars, the expenses being reckoned at 6,862 and-a-half. The Committee close their report by recommending the appropriation of certain sums towards the expenditure of the ensuing year, and that M.E. Grand High Priest be authorised to draw on the M.E. Grand Treasurer for all such authorised sums. The election of officers then took place, the result of the ballot being that the same Companions were re-elected M.E. Grand High Priest, Grand King, Grand Scribe, Grand Treasurer, and Grand Secretary.

At the Annual Grand Communication, held 28th December, Comp. Andrew Robeno jun. M.E. Grand High Priest, who presided, delivered an appropriate address. From this it appeared there were in the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter ninety-seven Chapters and three Mark Lodges, with a membership of ten thousand. Seven applications for new Chapters had been received, and to each a warrant had been granted. The M.E.G. High Priest then described the visitations he had made throughout his province, and expressed himself highly pleased both with what he had seen, and with the cordiality with which he and the other Grand Officers had been received. He then read an interesting letter from Comp. W. J. Hughan, Grand Representative of this Grand Chapter in England, in which the writer touches upon the recognition of the Mark Grand Lodge of England by the Craft Grand Lodge, and also as to the state of the Royal Arch Degree. The address closed with a few further remarks, and then, all but Past High Priests having retired, P.G. High Priest C. E. Meyer installed Comp. A. Robeno as M.E.G. High Priest for the ensuing year. The latter installed sundry of the G. officers, and afterwards announced the following appointments: Comps. David B. Taylor, No. 183, G. Captain of the Host, John J. Heisler, No. 91, G.P.S., William H. Burkhardt, No. 52, G.R.A. Captain, Edward Mathews, No. 91, G.M. of 3rd Vail, W. W. Allen, No. 248, G.M. of 2nd Vail, Hibbert P. John, No. 169, G.M. of 1st Vail, Edward Mason, No. 232, G. Marshal, William T. Reynolds, No. 183, S.G.M. of C., Robert H. Vaughn, No. 232, J.G.M. of C., William C. Hamilton, No. 52, G. Pursuivant, and Harrison G. Clark, No. 91, G. Tyler, with others too numerous to quote. A memorial notice of the late P.G.H.P. Comp. John C. Smith, who died in October of last year, was then read, giving a full account of the Masonic career of the deceased Companion. From this it appears that Comp. J. Conrad Smith was initiated 10th June 1825, crafted 8th July, and raised 13th August. It was not till the beginning of the year 1846 that he advanced to the Royal Arch Degree, being exalted in the Jerusalem Chapter, No. 3, at an adjourned meeting held 21st February. After passing through various grades he was elected M.E.G.H.P. in 1856. A resolution, expressing the sympathies of Grand Chapter with the widow of their deceased Companion, and their respect for the memory of her deceased husband, was submitted for consideration, and the Grand Chapter then closed in peace. In an Appendix to this abstract is a report of the Committee on correspondence, which gives a summary of the proceedings of various Grand Chapters, some for 1873, some for 1874, and in the case of the Grand Mark Lodge of England for the years 1872, 1873, 1874. For the particulars of these proceedings, and the comments of the Committee on every point which seemed to require comment, we beg to refer them to the Appendix itself.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—As Summer advances, and warmer weather sets in, it will be necessary for every one to exercise watchfulness and care, and the earliest symptoms of deranged health must be immediately checked and removed, or else a slight attack may run into some serious disease. Diarrhœa and Colic, with spasms of the bowels, are especially liable to occur during this season, and it is wonderful how quickly they are relieved by the immediate application of this Ointment externally, by means of rubbing it into the skin, and by the internal use of the Pills at the same time; irritating matter is thus removed from the intestinal canal, and all risk of *Dysentery* and Summer Cholera almost entirely removed.

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PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE Provincial Grand Lodge of Lincolnshire was held on Thursday, at the Assembly Rooms, Boston, and was remarkable as showing the great increase which has taken place in the numbers of the Craft last year. The number of Lodges now in the province is 19, and the enrolled number of members 743. The attendance at Grand Lodge last year was 147, while this year it amounted to 202 brethren. All the Lodges in the Province were represented.

Previous to the opening of Grand Lodge, morning prayers were read in the beautiful church of St. Botolph, and the brethren proceeded, at one o'clock, to the Assembly Rooms, where Lodge of Harmony, No. 272, was opened by the W.M., under the banner of which Lodge Grand Lodge was to be entertained. The procession of Grand Officers afterwards entered, and Major Smythe, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, opened Grand Lodge. The work was immediately proceeded with, the Provincial Grand Officers being very numerous. Among them were Bros. John Sutcliffe, Canon Ace, F. D. Marsden, W. H. Radley, T. Slator, F. Snaith, Rev. G. Coltman, C. M. Nesbitt, R. J. Boyle and W. G. Moore.

The minutes were first read by Bro. Marsden, and confirmed. After which Bro. Nesbitt, the Treasurer's, accounts were submitted by that Brother. From these it appeared that there was a balance in his hands to the general account of £39 11s 7d, after 20 guineas had been paid to the Masonic charities. The Fund of Benevolence showed a balance in the Treasurer's hands of £67 12s 7d, while £520 was invested. All petitioners to the Fund had been relieved, according to the report of Bro. Radley, who read the report of the Committee of Charity.

Bro. Pigott, the Steward for the year, representing the Province, then rose and thanked the brethren for the support which they had given him in that capacity. They had furnished him with £575 to take up to the Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. He had certainly met with the greatest possible kindness.

The Deputy Grand Master said that Bro. Terry, the Secretary of the Benevolent Institution, was in attendance, and would say a few words on this subject.

Bro. Terry, who was received with applause, said he had been directed by the committee of management, who held their meeting the day before, to come to Boston for the purpose of returning their very grateful and sincere thanks to Bro. Pigott and the Deputy Stewards who assisted him at the Festival in January last, for the very handsome and liberal support they had given to the Benevolent Institution. At the same time he had to express regret that the candidates from Lincolnshire had not been successful at the election in May. He had also to thank the Deputy Grand Master for his donation of £100 for the purpose of endowing the Provincial Grand Master of the Province for the time being with votes; Bro. Sutcliffe also for his third or fourth donation; and Bro. Pigott and the other brethren who kindly attended the Festival. He hoped that whoever should be the Steward next year, and for whatever charity, he might be as true and hearty a Mason as was found in 1874-5. (Cheers.)

The Deputy Grand Master said he thought they must all be quite satisfied with the progress of the Province. From his own knowledge, he would state that the Lodges were getting on very well and steadily, but they did not wish only to swell their numbers. The brethren had before them the report of the Treasurer of Grand Lodge, and the report of the Benevolent Committee, which was still going on and prospering. They had also the report of Bro. Pigott, on the large sum he was enabled to take up as a Steward, in January, which was, no doubt, satisfactory to them all. On this he would ask Dr. Ace to say a few words.

The Rev. Dr. Ace, in obedience to the call of the D.G.M., said that as a Grand Lodge the brethren would not be discharging their duty, in his opinion, unless they tendered their cordial and unanimous thanks to Bro. Pigott for the exertions which he had made, during the past year, on behalf of one of their principal charities. Conversant himself with Bro. Pigott's diffidence in following so noble a Steward as the Province had the previous year, he yet knew that Bro. Pigott entered upon his work manfully. The work entailed much labour and correspondence, and Stewards met with many rebuffs in the pursuit of their design. He was, however, determined that Lincolnshire should take the lead, and he succeeded; for what? Not for an empty name, but to show that Masonry was alive in this Province. Bro. Pigott had discharged his duty, and he should therefore propose that the Grand Lodge present its cordial thanks to him for his unremitting and distinguished exertions on behalf of charity during the past year. (Cheers.)

The motion having been seconded and carried,—

Bro. Pigott thanked the brethren, both for their vote and for the assistance he received from them in the shape of contributions. During the next year he hoped that the brother who would succeed him would collect as much as £1,000.

The thanks of the brethren to Bro. Pigott were directed to be recorded on the minutes of Grand Lodge, and the different reports, which had been read, were ordered to be printed and circulated.

Bro. Hall said he was instructed by the subscribers to the "Oliver Memorial Fund," which was projected in remembrance of the late Dr. Oliver, to make an offer to the Provincial Grand Lodge that the sum collected, £197 7s 7d, should be handed over to the Provincial Grand Lodge Benevolent Fund, upon condition that the Provincial Grand Lodge added a similar sum to it, to be applied to some purpose to be determined on. The subject had been before the Benevolent Fund Committee, who thought that the interest of the money, when invested, should be devoted to the payment of small annuities to distressed brethren in the Province, until they could get their larger annuities from the Benevolent Institution. There was some objection to that, but he was sure he was speaking the sentiments of the subscribers when he said they would agree to anything the Provincial Grand Lodge might think right and proper, so long as the scheme was called after the late Dr. Oliver.

Grand Senior Warden asked whether the subscriptions to the fund were confined to brethren of this Province, or whether other brethren also subscribed.

Bro. Hall replied that the subscriptions came from other localities as well as from Lincolnshire. In answer to another question of Bro. G.S.W., Bro. Hall said the subject of the other subscribers' consent had been discussed at a meeting of the Committee held that morning.

Another brother asked the terms on which the offer was made. The brethren should be perfectly aware of them before they voted.

Bro. Mantell said the fund had been collected from Freemasons in various parts of the world, even from Australia, and he had not the slightest hesitation in saying that the offer the Oliver Memorial Committee were now making was a very handsome one. The only difficulty they had was one which Grand Treasurer had mooted, of how the money was to be spent. That difficulty, however, had always been got over when they had the money. (Laughter.) The brethren were very much pleased to find such an increase in the support of the Charities from year to year. He was pleased that they collected a Benevolent Fund, but he did not see why it should be saved. There was no reason why the brethren of 1874 should collect say £100, and lay it up whilst there were three institutions, which regarded the wants of young and old—when collected it ought to be spent. He had been present at the meeting of the Charity Committee that day, when it was seen that there were many pressing cases. Whatever Provincial Grand Lodge did now, he hoped it would not allow this sum, which was offered to it, to go into the Benevolent Fund, and be swallowed up in it without doing honour to Dr. Oliver. It should be applied in such a way that those who were benefitted by it should for ever after remember Dr. Oliver. A scholarship must be attached to the Masonic Boys' School, for such boy as may show talent, who might be called "The Oliver Memorial Boy."

Bro. Nesbitt (Grand Treasurer) said that with respect to cases of distress coming before the committee none ever came without having their wants generously and amply satisfied. No application for relief had been refused.

The resolution, "That the offer of the Oliver Memorial Committee be received with thanks by Provincial Grand Lodge," was then put, and carried unanimously.

The Deputy Grand Master then put to Grand Lodge the question of what Masonic Charitable Institution should be supported by the Province next year.

Bro. John Sutcliffe said that of late years the Girls' School had had the support of the Province only once. During seven years support was given to the Boys' School and the Benevolent Institution. They had but 99 votes in the Girls' School, while they had 400 in the Boys', and 400 in the Benevolent. They had four girls on the list of candidates and one boy. He thought they should increase their 99 votes by supporting the Girls' School.

Bro. Fountain, representing the Hundred of Elloe Lodge, called attention to the case of a widow, bordering on 70 years of age, and in delicate health, whose late husband had attained to the rank of Prov. G.S.W. She was unsuccessful at the election of the Benevolent Institution, and if she failed next year it would be very serious to her.

The Deputy Grand Master said he knew the case very well, and it was in excellent hands, so that Bro. Fountain need not be at all uneasy on the point.

Bro. Sutcliffe's motion was put and carried.

Bro. Boyle was selected as Steward, on the nomination of Bro. Pigott, and £21 was voted from the General Fund to be placed on his list.

The Deputy Grand Master then said he thought it right that the Installation of the Prince of Wales should not be allowed to pass without some expression, on the part of this Provincial Grand Lodge, of its sense of the honour he conferred on the Craft by accepting the office. From an examination of the records of proceedings on former occasions, he found that an address of congratulation had been presented to Royal Grand Masters on their Installation. A great many of the brethren present had had the opportunity of witnessing the very grandest ceremonial that had ever taken place in Masonry, and they would all remember the cheers which greeted the Prince of Wales at the Royal Albert Hall. They would also remember the intense feeling with which the Grand Master explained that he should never forget that day, and the way he reiterated the word "never," made a striking impression on the brethren who heard him. He (the Deputy Grand Master) had much pleasure in proposing "That an address from the Province of Lincolnshire be presented to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, congratulating him on his Installation as M.W. Grand Master." It was a great honour to be presided over by a future King; and, though he would not hold the position of Grand Master when he ascended the throne of these realms, he (the Deputy Grand Master) trusted he might long be spared to rule over Freemasons.

The Rev. George Coltman said he had been selected, as the oldest Mason in Lincolnshire, to second the proposition. He had not been able to attend for some time, but he could assure the brethren that the old Masonic spirit was still strong in him. He was pleased that the Prince of Wales had accepted the office of Grand Master, and he trusted that the tie His Royal Highness had thus formed with the Masons of England would not only unite his future subjects with him, but would open new fountains in his heart that would never be dried up. (Hear, hear.) He was sure the brethren would unanimously vote this address, and that the Prince of Wales would not look upon the people of Lincolnshire when he received it, as a former king of England did, when he said it was one of the most brutal and beastly counties in the country. (Laughter.) If he had been present to-day, and saw the splendid assemblage, he certainly would not say that it was the least county in England.

The motion was carried unanimously, and the address was directed to be presented by the Prov. G.M., the Deputy P.G.M., the Prov. G. Treasurer and the Prov. G. Secretary.

The following brethren were then appointed Grand Officers for the

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year:—Bros. W. H. Smythe D.P.G.M., T. Slator jun. 838 G.S.W., J. A. Thomas 272 G.J.W., Rev. J. C. K. Saunders 1286 Chaplain, C. M. Nesbitt 712 G. Treasurer, H. Watson 1386 G. Registrar, F. D. Marsden 712 G. Secretary, G. Ford 271 G.S.D., T. W. Thimbleby 426 G.J.D., Alfred Parkin 1482 G. Sup. Wks., Wm. Pooles 838 Grand Director of Ceremonies, Geo. Nelson 1282 Grand Assistant Director of Ceremonies, W. Swallow 1482 G. Sword Bearer, Wm. Barraclough 1386 G. Organist, Alfred Kirk, 422 G. Pursuivant; J. W. Palmer 838, W. B. Batley 838, F. Watson 1386, Wm. Sissons 1447, Thos. Fryer 1282, W. S. Bladon 422, G. Stewards; Benj. Box G. Tyler, Bros. Fowler P.P.G.J.W., Griffin P.P.G.D.C., Auditors of Grand Lodge Funds.

The next Provincial Meeting is to be held at Brigg.

Bro. John Sutcliffe apologised, on behalf of Bro. F. Binckes, for his absence.

The Deputy Prov. Grand Master apologised for the absence of the Prov. Grand Master, and Grand Lodge was then closed.

The brethren afterwards dined at the Shodfriars Hall, presided over by the Deputy Grand Master, and honoured a very long list of toasts. The gallery was graced with the presence of over 100 ladies.

ANTAGONISM TO MASONRY.

(*From the* CANADIAN MASONIC NEWS.)

MASONRY, like everything else that is good, has always had its enemies—people who, whether they know anything about it or not, were ever ready to speak of it and against it, and who, in default of a specious reason for their opposition, have never hesitated to invent one. Of course an antagonism which cared nothing for the strength of logic or the weight of facts, but whose scepticism, like Tertullian's faith, often glorified in being founded on an absurdity, must have continually changed its point of attack to vary with the changing phases of character in those who maintained it. Sometimes these changing aspects of opposition to Masonry have been of a rather contradictory character to each other. It does seem to a rational and impartial mind that sometimes, if one of them was well founded, another urged at some past or subsequent period could not be false. But this has never made a particle of difference to the anti-Masons. Their war cry has always been "*Delendo est Carthago*," and it mattered but little to them how the destruction was brought about, so that it could at last be accomplished. Grave divines, learned lawyers, astute politicians, in their anxiety to obliterate Freemasonry from the catalogue of human institutions have not declined to embrace any falsehood or folly, however monstrous or absurd, and to retail it to gaping multitudes, with all the unction that they should have felt only in delivering a maxim of truth or a lesson of wisdom.

To take up the history of this moral crusade against the Institution only for more than the last half century, we shall find at least four different changes in the spirit and manner of the opposition.

In the beginning of the century, or just before it, Masonry was denounced by such men as Barruel and Robinson, as a conspiracy against all government and religion, and the Institution was flatly charged with encouraging rebellion to constituted authority, and with the unscrupulous inculcation of Atheism. "We cannot but suspect," said Pope Pius VII., "that the Freemasons wish to overthrow, not only thrones, but even religions, and especially the Christian." Hence edicts were issued by emperors and kings, and bulls fulminated by popes, forbidding the meeting of Lodges, and commanding the utter abolition of the Society. These things have died off among most intelligent people, but there are some men who can never get rid of an idea which has once taken possession of their minds; and, therefore, we still find many, even at this day, who believe as firmly in the bull of Pope Pius as they do in their own creed, and who cannot be persuaded that Freemasons are anything better than Atheists in disguise.

But the charge of Atheism against an Institution which publicly announced that a trust in God was an absolute necessary qualification for admission into its mysteries, was too absurd to be long believed even by fanatics; and the priests, while they still fulminate their anathemas against the Freemasons, and threaten them with excommunication, do not now deny them some sort of a religion, such as it is, and which is at all events better than to have no religion at all of which they accused them.

Accordingly, about the end of the first quarter of the century, the tactics of the anti-Masons were changed; and a belief in God being admitted as a part of the Masonic creed, because it was expedient to contend that his vengeance was most awfully invoked in the Lodges on all recreants, the enemies of the Fraternity began to discover (for we are never sure that an anti-Mason means all that he says) that Masonry was an *imperium in imperio*; that the members sought to establish a commonwealth within themselves, which was to be in perpetual antagonism to the laws of the country in which they resided, and that political preferment, trial by jury, and even success in business, were all to be controlled and directed by Masonic influences which were to put the laws at defiance and bring to the support of the humblest member, in every affair of his life, even though it were a transgression against the laws, the whole weight and influence of the Fraternity.

But truth is great, and this opposition has all died away, except perhaps, in some few benighted spots and dark corners of the country adjoining us, where the name of Morgan is still heard with a shudder, and every Freemason is supposed to bear somewhere about his person a fac-simile of the brand of Cain.

And then there came another phase in the opposition. When men were obliged to admit that Masons were not Atheists, and to confess that they were very often excellent subjects or citizens, they began to discover that the secrets of the Institution were a "humbug"—for those anti-Masons are by no means choice in their expressions, and very often sacrifice elegance to strength—they declared that its ceremonies were puerile, and unworthy of men of sense, and that a study of its principles was nothing less than a sheer loss of time. But as these philosophers, who, of course, always devoted *their* time and talents to something of more importance than the pursuit of Masonry—such, for instance, as making money or seeking office—very candidly acknowledged that they knew nothing about the Society, because they had always deemed it derogatory to their dignity to seek admission into the ranks of an Institution which, at best, could only be considered as a remnant of the dark ages, the world has paid less attention to their invectives than to either of the preceding classes, and, therefore, Masonry has continued to be cultivated and admired by some of the highest intellects of the age. The literature of the Institution as it now stands before the world, has been the most effective answer to the cavils of those would-be wits, who think that it, like their own heads, contains nothing of value or importance worthy it.

And now, lastly, there is beginning to be presented a new form and substance of objection, which, however, as it is equally unfounded in truth, will, we doubt not, like all others, meet with the same fate. That Masonry, which once was charged with being the teacher of Atheism, the violator of law; and the conservator of absurd trifles is now clothed with another garment, different from all these, and is accused of endeavouring to establish a religion for itself, and to teach its members how to get to Heaven in its own way.

Its object is now said to be, to offer itself as a substitute for true religion, and to present its own teachings exclusively as a way of salvation. Although this exchange of tactics is undoubtedly very absurd, it was a very natural change in a system of absurdity. When it was found that men would not believe that Masonry had no religion, it was a very absurd policy to endeavour to persuade them that it had too much. The accusation came out bran new; it is perhaps the last Parthian arrow from the quiver of anti-Masonry, and has already been shot too wide of its mark to effect any harm. The pious and intelligent clergymen of all faiths and denominations, who fill the ranks of Masonry, and who would long ago have abandoned it if it had sought in the most indirect manner to interfere with their hopes of eternal safety, is in itself the best answer to such a charge.

We do not intend making any sort of argument on this subject. In a pleasant little story from the pen of Mrs. Inchbald, there is a character—a learned but arrogant priest—who once declined entering into an argument with a lady, on the ground that he never disputed with anybody under a doctor of divinity. We confess we are somewhat in favour of his views, so far at least, as never to argue with a man on a subject of which he is totally ignorant. No man who is at all acquainted with the nature, the history, and the true design of Freemasonry, would ever, for a single instant, undertake to sustain either of the four accusations which we have recapitulated. When, however, an opponent shall present himself armed with a knowledge of all that has been written in favour of Masonry by its disciples, as well as all that has been said against it by its enemies—when such an opponent will prelude his intended combat by the declaration that he has carefully studied its principles from the authority of its teachers, and knows them to be wrong, then will we consider such a foe as worthy of our lance, and will freely enter the lists. But for hearsay, scandal, and gratuitous abuse, no man or Mason should ever have any other answer than silent contempt.

And, after all, what has been and what will be ever the effect on Masonry of this absurd, if not always unconscientious antagonism? The story of Galileo will give the response in the way of parable.

When Galileo was on his knees before the Inquisition of Rome, the greatest mind of the age prostrate before the least, and making the required recantation of his heretical dogma, that the sun stood still, and the earth moved around it, he turned to a friend, and whispered in his ear these words of solace: "Never mind, the world will keep moving!" and so whisper we, in spite of all that benighted popes, and despotic kings, and wily Jesuits, and cunning politicians, and frightened old women, may say about it or against it, "Masonry will still keep moving."

RAILWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

The following statement shows the receipts for traffic on the undermentioned railways for the past week, as compared with the corresponding week in 1874:—

Railway.	Miles open. 1875	Receipts. 1875 £	1874 £
Caledonian	737½	54,801	52,571
Glasgow and South Western	315½	18,077	16,839
Great Eastern	763	48,277	44,605
Great Northern	523	54,052	49,023
Great Western	1,525	106,307	100,748
Lancashire and Yorkshire	430	66,786	60,725
London and Brighton	376½	34,796	41,870
London, Chatham and Dover	153½	20,149	17,603
London and North Western	1,582½	176,314	168,304
London and South Western	626½	43,067	40,970
London, Tilbury and Southend	45	1,951	3,407
Manchester and Sheffield	259½	30,941	31,167
Midland	956½	106,857	93,659
Metropolitan	8	9,516	8,304
" " District	8	5,313	4,182
" " St. John's Wood	1½	490	410
North British	839	43,592	39,315
North Eastern	1,893	126,286	105,322
North London	12	7,416	6,618
North Staffordshire Railway	190	9,930	9,177
" " Canal	118	1,684	1,625
South Eastern	350	39,338	30,166

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CORRESPONDENCE.

All Letters must bear the name and address of the Writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.

OUR FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

Manchester, 7th June 1875.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I write you again, more fully, in explanation of my last week's letter, and in anticipation of any comments which may be made thereon.

At the commencement of my Masonic studies, I was inclined to account for the two principal and opposite views of Freemasonry, by supposing that what occurred in 1717 might have occurred in 1400, and that as the Rosicrucians were the originators of the high grades, so the former were but an early speculative branch of Freemasons, who again coalesced with the operative. But, upon more mature examination, I felt constrained to admit that no other ceremonial element than the operative one went to constitute the symbolical Masonry of the G.L. of 1717.

The doubts and difficulties which now beset earnest students of Freemasonry seem to arise in this way, and there is ample evidence of the reality of such explanation in the ancient MSS. and published documents upon Freemasonry.

Thus, two precisely opposite principles were in action in South and North Britain. Freemasonry in South Britain, that is a ceremonial which bound the operative Mason to his brethren, and created him free of his Craft, was laid hold upon by men of scientific education and refined manners, and consequently there is evidence, of an ample kind, between 1640 and 1740, that whilst these preserved unaltered the old landmarks, they gradually refined and improved the ceremonies and lectures. But in North Britain the reverse was the case, the ceremonial was pretty generally, if not entirely, in the hands of operatives of little education, who sunk the ceremonials as much as their Southern brethren had elevated their tendency. Besides this there were some little differences in the secrets, of no great moment. All this is upon evidence, which I must be spared the more particular specification of.

These records of the two parts of the country, however, prove these things:—

1. That the general basis of the Society was the same, and that both branches were ready to admit a speculative element. That the "Lodge" was an assembly of the Masters, Wardens, and Workmen employed upon any edifice.

2. That a ceremony was used at giving the "Mason word" which included all the elements of the present E.A.P.: that the next degree of Fellow-Craft required at least an interval of twelve months, and was (as we are specially informed) a repetition of the first, with different secrets. That a mark was given, but no ceremony.

3. That there was a Master Mason's word and secrets, and that the ceremony could be, and was, only given at the general assembly of Masters. There is no ancient evidence that these secrets had anything to do with the R.A. secrets.

We are informed that upon reception an apprentice in North Britain had two members given to him to explain the secrets afterwards, that the word was *shewn*, consequently it was possible to pass a F.C. in the presence even of E.A.P. I am inclined to think that Masonry in South Britain owed much of its condition to the publication of Bacon's *New Atlantis* and the works upon Rosicrucianism, which brought speculative Masons into it, as a similar Society.

We arrive at these results, and the sooner we recognise the facts the better for Freemasonry.

1. The E.A.P. of to-day is only a more polished version of the ceremony of swearing-in an apprentice Mason.

2. That the F.C. is simply a repetition of the same ceremony, with special signs, words, &c., some of which are of ancient operative derivation.

3. That the secrets and ceremony of a Master Mason are essentially those of the old operative Master Mason, and are the more exclusive property of the Grand Lodge.

4. That everything, no matter by what name known, not included in these three divisions, is modern and spurious.

Trusting your venture may long be spared in the exclusive advocacy of genuine Craft Masonry,

I remain, fraternally yours,

JOHN YARKER P.M. P.Z.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have read the letters upon this subject, from Bros. Walter Spencer and John Yarker, but in neither can *I* discover substantial evidence to disprove my ideas.

Bro. Spencer asserts that I make "no allowance for the nature of a secret society," but that is a mistake, for I do make allowance for that, and look into *little things* in my Masonic enquiries, and it is owing to the want of these little points amongst the pre-eighteenth century Masons that I propound and support the 1717 theory. From Bro. Spencer's remarks I fear he is but young in Masonic controversy, or he would not have written as he does, at page 341, about "the ceremony of *choosing a mark*." Had he, *e.g.* read and remembered what I published and said about the 1670 Aberdeen Records some years ago, he would have known that entered apprentices, *when being entered as such*, received their mark upon payment of "ane merk piece for their Mason's mark." Bro. Spencer asserts that there exist "many antiquities which show acquaintance with our Freemasonry" before last century. If so, tell us all about them? I have been told before now that such existed at various places, but when I went to view them, with the aid of the best glasses I had, I could not see anything in them to support the statements made about them, but, instead, often the very opposite. As to Bro. Spencer's quotation:—

Q. "How was the Master clothed?"

A. "In a yellow jacket and a blue pair of breeches."

I have no objections to him dating it either in or before the seventeenth century, as it, in my opinion, does not affect the 1717 theory at all, unless in so far as that it seems to me to support it. Possibly Bro. Spencer will not see through this; if not, he is no worse off than some of those who rank amongst the first Masonic historians of the day who, unfortunately, have their analytic bump very poorly developed. Catholics and Protestants, *e.g.* both administer and receive the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, yet how different are they in their ideas thereanent! As to Bro. Yarker's MS., which he says dates "about the year 1727," it is not worth a brass farthing *against* the 1717 theory. For, not to mention other points, it is ten years *after* 1717.

As to your own remarks, at page 337, I would beg to ask: How do you know that the old wooden figures you speak of really represent Masons? May they not have been carpenters? As to the oft repeated story of "scrupulous brethren" burning certain Masonic documents, I consider that to be a piece of unscrupulous humbug, and, if I am not mistaken, Bro. W. J. Hughan took the same view. In closing, I would ask some one of the many who oppose the 1717 theory, to give a proper explanation, if they can, of how the Pope, in 1738, came to say that the Society of Freemasons had only been recently formed?

I am, Sir,

Yours fraternally,

W. P. BUCHAN.

Glasgow, 5th June 1875.

MATERNAL INSTINCT IN SPARROWS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR,—The following incident may interest some of your readers. Nearly the whole of the back of my house is overrun with ivy and other creepers, in which are many sparrows' nests, and, to judge from the constant twittering, many families of sparrows. My cat, like the rest of her tribe, is the sworn enemy of all birds, and, being ignorant of the existence of a Small Birds' Protection Act, makes frequent and successful raids on the innocent little occupants of my ivy. One day last week my eldest boy found a young sparrow hopping about on the gravel. Evidently it had been disturbed, or perhaps toppled out of its nest, for the cat was visible high up in the ivy on the watch for prey. We put the bird into a disused canary cage, and hung it up in the sun, out of all danger. But how to feed it was the question, for it was too young to feed itself? This difficulty was soon solved, however; in a very short time the mother discovered the whereabouts of its young, and having provided the necessaries of bird life, kept flying to and fro, and feeding its offspring through the wires of the cage. Unfortunately a stiffish breeze blew the cage down, and in the end the sparrow fell a prey to Miss Pussy. But later in the same afternoon an even younger bird was found hopping on the pathway, and this is still alive. Regularly during the last ten days the mother has come and fed it, and, though a prisoner, it seems to lead a very happy life, hopping about the cage in quite a lively manner, and chirping with greater vigour every day. I think this is pretty good evidence of the strength of maternal instinct even in so apparently insignificant an animal as the common sparrow.

Yours fraternally,

A.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I enclose you two clippings from Auckland (New Zealand) papers received last mail. They may interest your readers.

Yours fraternally,

T. B. WHYTEHEAD.

In the shop window of Mr. Isidore Alexander was exhibited, on Monday, an illuminated address, about to be presented to W. J. Rees, Esq., by the members of the Masonic Lodge Ara 348, (I.C.), of which Lodge that gentleman is a Past W.M. The address will be accompanied by a very handsome and artistically finished Masonic jewel (a square and compasses) in 18-carat gold, with the letter G in the centre, set with turquoises. The address is from the pen of Mr. E. B. Dickson, and the "jewel" the workmanship of Mr. Alexander; and both are highly creditable to those gentlemen. Since the above was written we have learned that a meeting of the Lodge Ara took place on Monday night, in the Masonic Hotel, and, after the business of the meeting had closed, the Worshipful Master, Brother Robinson, presented to Bro. W. J. Rees P.M. the Past Master's jewel, with the above illuminated address. Brother Rees responded in suitable terms, and the Worshipful Master then presented Brother W. L. Mitchell with an illuminated address (also prepared by Mr. E. B. Dickson), as a mark of recognition of his services as Secretary to the Lodge during the past Masonic term. After the Lodge was closed, the brethren sat down to a banquet provided by Bro. Avey, which was in the most *recherché* style. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and the company then separated.

During the last few months various efforts have been made by the Masonic body in Auckland to have a Hall erected worthy of

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the city and of the Craft. At times it was feared that those well-meant efforts would not be successful, but there is every reason to believe that the early part of 1876 will see the long desired Hall erected. A limited liability company is to be formed for the purpose. The want which the company proposes to fill is one which has long been felt in Auckland. Something more than the mere erection of a hall will be undertaken by the company. The site of the building chosen is that block of ground in Upper Queen Street, near the Army and Navy Hotel, running from Queen to Grey Streets. Besides the necessary accomodation for Masonic rites and ceremonies, it is intended to provide a large hall for concerts, public meetings, &c. The hall will also be used as a Masonic club. Masons from all parts of the colony may lodge there during their stay in Auckland, if they prefer to do so rather than go to an Hotel. The company is to have a capital of £10,000, in 5,000 shares of £2 each. It is intended that the company shall be started on a sound financial basis, and have no debt either on land or building when the hall is open. The Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 1338, has been the chief moving agent in the matter, Bro. Seers P.M., the able secretary, having been unwearying in his efforts to promote this end.

REVIEWS.

All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, 67 Barbican, E.C.

Lives of the Engineers. The Steam Engine. Boulton and Watt. By Samuel Smiles, author of "Character," "Self Help," &c. A new and revised edition. London: John Murray, Albemarle Street, 1874.

It would have been somewhat difficult to find a man better able to fulfil the task of biographer to our great engineers, than the author of "Self Help." Biography requires a man of patient study, of deep research, possessing likewise a certain enthusiasm and liveliness of description, so that he may enlist the sympathies of the reader, at the same time that he does justice to the merits of the subject he is writing of. Mr. Smiles possesses these various qualities in an eminent degree. To judge from previous works of his, we should set him down as one who had read deeply, and who well digested what he had read. As for his style, we know full well that it is what is properly known as popular—not in the sense in which some novels are said to be popular, novels which everybody reads because everybody else has read them, and then forgets, as everybody else has forgotten them—but popular in so far as it will edify and attract the great mass of the reading public. In this sense Mr. Smiles may certainly be set down as a popular author, and consequently what comes from his pen may be set down, generally, as edifying and attractive. This is doubly the case as regards the volume before us. We have here the lives of two popular worthies narrated by a popular author. However consistent with patriotism some Englishmen may regard it to abuse our institutions, whatever doubts may exist as to the merits of this or that public man, there are very few among us who do not point with pride to the marvellous works and inventions of our great engineers. In respect of this particular class of great men, England may fairly claim to be far ahead of all other nations, France and Germany have had their statesmen and generals as well as we; in geographical discovery, Spain took the lead of all the nations of the old world, and Holland has done more than its share of geographical enterprise, as have we in the days of the great Queen and since, but no other country under the sun can boast with honest pride of such a glorious array of engineering genius as can England, and foremost in this array are the subjects of Mr. Smiles's present volume—James Watt, the inventor of the steam engine, and Matthew Boulton.

James Watt, born at Greenock, on the Clyde, on 19th January 1836, was of good parentage. His grandfather, Thomas Watt, had migrated to the neighbourhood from the county of Aberdeen, where his father had been a small farmer in the time of Charles I. In early years, James was extremely delicate, and required the greatest care in bringing up. His education therefore, was, at the outset, a home one. When sent at length to a commercial school, he proved at first a somewhat dull scholar, nor was it till he got into the mathematical class, that he gave evidence of possessing any great powers. His weak health frequently interrupted his studies, and obliged him to return home, but his progress in mathematics and mechanics was very great. On reaching the age of eighteen he was apprenticed to an optician in Glasgow, or rather to a worthy man who was so described, but who really sold and mended spectacles, repaired fiddles, and made and sold fishing-rods and fishing-tackle. Finding, however, that he gained but little additional knowledge here, he was sent to London, and became engaged to a Mr. John Morgan, a respectable mathematical instrument maker in Cornhill. Here he soon became proficient in all the branches of this delicate manufacture, so that by the end of the year he was able to write home to his father that he had made "a brass sector with a French joint, which is reckoned as nice a piece of framing work as is in the trade." In 1856, Watt returned to Greenock, in bad health, but well set up in knowledge of the business he had devoted himself to. He soon regained strength, however, and was sent to Glasgow to begin business for himself. Here, however, he experienced some difficulties. There were no mathematical instrument makers in the city, yet "Watt was opposed by the Corporation of Hammermen, on the ground that he was neither a son of a burgess nor had served an apprenticeship within the borough." He then sought permission of the Corporation to open a small workshop; but this also was peremptorily refused. At length he found a safe harbour of refuge within the precincts of Glasgow University, over which neither the hammermen nor the Corporation had the slightest influence or authority, and in a workshop in the inner quadrangle of this venerable building, Watt passed the early years of his business career, and here he established that high reputation for mechanical skill and science, which in the end was to raise him to such a pinnacle of greatness. Here he was enabled to pursue his studies under far more favourable conditions, and here he contracted those early friendships with men of eminence, such as Dr. Joseph Black, the great chemist, Professor Dick, Professor Anderson, and John Robison, then a student, but afterwards Professor of Natural Philosophy at Edinburgh. The description by the last quoted in these pages, of his introduction to Watt will bear reproduction in our columns:—

"Robison's introduction to Watt has been described by himself. After feasting his eyes on the beautifully-finished instruments in his shop, Robison entered into conversation with the owner. Expecting to find only a workman, he was surprised to discover a philosopher. 'I had the vanity,' says Robison, 'to think myself a pretty good proficient in my favourite study (mathematical and mechanical philosophy), and was rather mortified at finding Mr. Watt so much my superior. But his own high relish for these things made him pleased with the chat of any person who had the same tastes with himself; and his innate complaisance made him indulge my curiosity, and even encourage my endeavours to form a more intimate acquaintance with him. I lounged much about him, and, I doubt not, was frequently teasing him. Thus our acquaintance began.'"

Nor can we do better than quote the opinion given of Watt at this period:—

"Watt soon came to be regarded as one of the ablest men about College. 'When to the superiority of knowledge in his own line,' said Robison, 'which every man confessed, there was joined the naïve simplicity and candour of his character, it is no wonder that the attachment of his acquaintances was so strong. I have seen something of the world,' he continued, 'and I am obliged to say that I never saw such another instance of general and cordial attachment to a person whom all acknowledged to be their superior. But this superiority was concealed under the most amiable candour, and liberal allowance of merit to every man. Mr. Watt was the first to ascribe to the ingenuity of a friend things which were very often nothing but his own surmises followed out and embodied by another. I am well entitled to say this, and have often experienced it in my own case.'"

(*To be Continued.*)

MASONIC ORPHAN BOYS' SCHOOL.

THE half-yearly general meeting of the Board of Governors of the Masonic Orphan Boys' School was held at Freemasons' Hall, Molesworth Street, on Thursday, the 13th May.

R.W. Robert W. Shekleton, D.G.M., Vice-Patron, in the chair.

The Minutes of the previous half-yearly meeting having been read, were confirmed and signed.

The following report from the Scrutineers of the Ballot was then read:—

We, the undersigned Scrutineers of the Ballot for the election of Two Pupils into the Masonic Orphan Boys' School, have to report that, with the assistance of the Secretary, we have examined the several voting papers sent in.

The total number of papers received up to the time of the Scrutiny was 660, viz.:—24 from Vice-Patrons and Vice-Presidents; 106 from Life Governors; 352 from Annual Governors; and 178 from Official Governors. Of these 4 were not properly signed; 3 were duplicates; and 55 from Governors whose subscriptions were unpaid.

The total number of votes recorded was 1,466, viz.:—

Wills Ballantine	64
Thomas H. Blandell	29
George H. Gill	87
Francis W. Harvey	16
William H. Knight	196
William S. Little	232
Charles L. Mathews	122
William G. Orr	379
Eugene O'Reilly	264
Alexander L. Richardson	85
Alexander Robinson	42

Dated this 11th day of May 1875.

John A. Hogan, Lodge No. 6
Samuel Dobbin, " 4
John Vincent Legge, " 6
Charles Foot, " 33
} Scrutineers.

SAMUEL B. OLDHAM, Assistant Secretary.

It was proposed by Brother George Hill Major; seconded by Brother J. C. Meredith, LL.D., and resolved—

"That William Gerald Orr, son of the late John Orr, stock broker, of Lodges 36 and 40, Belfast; and Eugene O'Reilly, son of the late Matthew George O'Reilly, Sub-Inspector Royal Irish Constabulary, of Lodges 217, Ballina, and 13, Limerick, be declared duly elected as Pupils of the Masonic Orphan Boys' School.

The following Resolution of the Committee having been read:—

"That the Committee desire to bring before the Board of Governors, at its next meeting, the desirability of establishing a separate Institution, and the benefit likely to accrue to the School by so doing."

It was, after some discussion, proposed by Brother William Roper; seconded by Bro. J. C. Meredith, LL.D.; and resolved—

"That in the opinion of the Board of Governors, it is not expedient *at present* to take any active steps towards the establishing, as a separate Institution, the Masonic Orphan Boys' School."

[We insert the above at the request of an esteemed correspondent. At the same time we should feel obliged to our friends in Ireland if they would assist us in giving earlier publicity as to the events occurring in their respective districts.—[EDITOR, FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.]

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THE THEATRES, &c.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.—This evening, DINORAH. On Monday, DON GIOVANNI. On Tuesday, UN BALLO IN MASCHERA. On Thursday, LOHENGRIN. On Friday, ROMEO E GIULIETTA. 8.30 each evening.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA, DRURY LANE.—This evening, LOHENGRIN. On Monday, FAUST. On Tuesday, NORMA. On Thursday, LOHENGRIN, at 8.30 each evening, except this evening, when the Opera will commence at 8.0. On Monday morning, at 2.30, and Friday evening, at 8.30, HAMLET. On Wednesday evening, at 8.30, OTHELLO.

HAYMARKET.—At 7.30, A FAIR ENCOUNTER, DAVID GARRICK, and THE SERIOUS FAMILY.

ADELPHI.—At 6.45, TWO HEADS ARE BETTER THAN ONE, NICHOLAS NICKLEBY and FUN IN A FOG.

PRINCESS'S.—At 7.15, HEARTSEASE. At 9.15, ROUND THE WORLD IN EIGHTY DAYS.

LYCEUM.—At 6.50, FISH OUT OF WATER. At 7.45, HAMLET. On Saturday, a morning performance at 2.30 only.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.30, TWENTY MINUTES WITH A TIGER. AT 8.0, THE SPENDTHRIFT.

STRAND.—At 7.30, AN EARNEST APPEAL. At 8.0, WEAK WOMEN and INTIMIDAD.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 8.0, MONEY.

GAIETY.—At 8.0, FRENCH OPERA.

GLOBE.—At 7.0, EAST LYNNE and BLUE BEARD. (Last Nights.)

ST. JAMES'S.—At 7.30, THE DANCING BARBER. At 8.30, TOM COBB, At 10.15, THE ZOO.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG, OUR BOYS and A FEARFUL FOG.

CHARING CROSS.—JEANNE DUBARRY and CATTARINA.

MIRROR.—At 7.0, NAVAL ENGAGEMENTS. At 8.15, THE DETECTIVE.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, THE ARTFUL DODGE and CHILPERIC.

CRITERION.—On Monday at 8.0, GIROFLE-GIROFLA.

COURT.—At 8.0, BOOK III., CHAPTER 1, AND A NINE DAY'S WONDER.

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PATRON, HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

WITH THE SANCTION OF
H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., M.W. GRAND MASTER,
PRESIDENT OF THE INSTITUTION,

THE 77TH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL will be held at the ALEXANDRA PALACE, Muswell Hill, on WEDNESDAY, 7th July 1875, the Right Hon. the EARL OF CARNARVON, M.W. Pro Grand Master, and Prov. G.M. of Somersetshire, in the Chair.

BOARD OF STEWARDS:—President, R.W. Bro. Lord Balfour of Burleigh, P.G.W.; Acting President, W. Bro. J. A. Rucker, P.G.D., P.M. 66; Acting Vice-President, W. Bro. J. M. P. Montagu, D.Pr.G.M. Dorset, No. 1383; Treasurer, W. Bro. R. B. Webster, P.M. 140, No. 1339; and 227; Brethren representing Lodges in the Metropolis and in the Provinces.

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The Stewards' Visit and Distribution of Prizes will take place at the Institution, Wood Green, on Wednesday, 30th June, at three p.m.

Right Hon. Lord Balfour of Burleigh, R.W.P.G.S.W., President of the Board of Stewards, in the Chair.

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THE WEEK'S DOINGS.

ON Friday, the case of Mrs. Marks, as illustrating the compulsory powers of the London School Board, was brought under the notice of the House of Lords by Earl Delawarr. The Duke of Richmond pointed out that Mrs. Marks had been dealt with without unnecessary harshness, and, as regards the future, that every case must be determined on its own merits. Viscount Lifford then moved for a return of the names of those Boards of Guardians of the Poor in Ireland which had objected to the appointment of certain sanitary officers, a motion to which the Duke of Richmond, on the part of the government, raised no objection, and, accordingly, it was assented to. On the report of amendments on the Church Patronage Bill, Lord Houghton expressed a hope that the Bill would be withdrawn, but, on various grounds, the Bishop of Peterborough objected. Several verbal amendments were then inserted, and the report agreed to. Other Bills having been advanced a stage, the House adjourned. On Monday, the Sale of Food and Drugs Bill was read a second, and the Church Patronage Bill a third time, and passed. Other measures were dealt with, and the sitting terminated. Tuesday's was only a very brief sitting. On Thursday, after the Earl of Carnarvon had answered a question put by the Earl of Shaftesbury, respecting the recent terrible outbreak of measles in the Fiji Islands, the House considered the report on the Artisans' Dwellings Bill. An addition to the 12th clause was moved by Earl Beauchamp, and carried, on division, by 25 to 23. One or two other amendments were made, and the report was then agreed to, after which the House rose.

In the House of Commons, on Friday, at the morning sitting, the committee on the Friendly Societies Bill was resumed at Clause 28, and a concession was made by the Government allowing the insurance of £6 for the burial of a child to be made in one instead of in two societies. One or two other amendments on the same clause were agreed to. A discussion ensued on sundry of the other clauses, and the schedules and preamble having been agreed to, the Bill passed

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through Committee amid cheers, and was ordered to be reported on the 14th. The Attorney-General then moved that the House go into Committee on the Land Titles and Transfer Bill, a motion on which Mr. O. Morgan proposed an amendment, to the effect that the Bill in question would not prove effectual in carrying out the purpose for which it was designed. Mr. Golding, on the contrary, thought the Bill a good one, but the debate was adjourned by the rules of the House, at 10 minutes to 7 o'clock. At the evening sitting, Mr. Torrens brought forward a resolution as to the removal, without court martial, of officers below the rank of Major-General, who were not incapacitated by bodily or mental infirmity. Colonel Alexander moved as an amendment that it was neither wise nor expedient to interfere with the prerogative of the Crown. Mr. S. Cave offered a strenuous opposition to the motion. Several attempts were made, in the course of the debate, to count the House out, and at length, it being found that the requisite quorum of 40 was not present, the sitting was adjourned, at a quarter before midnight. Nearly the whole of Monday's sitting was devoted to the Committee on the Savings' Bank Bill. On Clause 1, which provides for a consolidation of the accounts of securities of the National Debt Commissioners, Mr. Childers moved an amendment, the object of which was to keep the accounts of the Savings' Banks, Post Office Savings' Banks, and the Friendly Societies' distinct, a long debate ensued, the Government resisting the amendment. Messrs. Gladstone, Fawcett, and Hubbard were opposed to the Clause, which was carried, however, by 199 to 161—majority 38. The Opposition hailed the result, for some unaccountable reason, with loud cheers. The Clauses of the Bill were then discussed *seriatim*; several amendments being proposed and negatived, and ultimately the Bill passed through committee amid cheers. The County Courts Bill was read a second time, and after the disposal of other business the House adjourned. The morning sitting on Tuesday was likewise devoted to a question of financial arrangements, the subject being the National Debt (Sinking Fund) Bill. On the motion for going into Committee on this Bill, Mr. Hubbard moved a certain amendment, which, however, after a long discussion, was withdrawn, and the House went into Committee. On Clause 1, Mr. Gladstone moved to omit all the words which provided for the reduction of the National Debt by the payment during the year of £185,000 out of the surplus, on the ground there was no surplus at all. This amendment was defeated by 189 to 122, majority 67. The remaining clauses were then agreed to, and the Bill passed through Committee. On Wednesday, Mr. Dixon moved the second reading of the Elementary Education (Compulsory Attendance) Bill, but Mr. Hamond moved an amendment that it be read that day three months. Several speakers for, and against the Bill followed, the principal being Lord Sandon, who hoped the House would negative it, and Mr. Forster who supported. The Bill was rejected by 255 to 164, majority 91. On Thursday, Mr. Whalley asked the Prime Minister a silly question as to the presence of Jesuits in this country, to which the latter gave a suitable reply. Other queries were put, and then the Attorney General moved the second reading of the Supreme Court of Judicature Act (1873) Amendment (No. 2) Bill. On the other hand, Mr. W. Williams moved that it be read a second time that day three months. Sir W. Harcourt supported the Bill, as did Sir J. Karslake, whose participation in the debates of the House was greeted with hearty cheers. Mr. O. Morgan, Mr. Bulwer, Sir G. Bowyer, Mr. Grantham, Mr. M. Lloyd, Mr. Charley and Mr. Jackson, the majority of whom are, we believe, gentlemen of the long robe, also addressed the House, after which Mr. Cross moved the adjournment of the debate, so that he might introduce his Labour Bills, the object of which is to improve the relations between master and servant, and to define what are criminal offences in connection with labour, and what civil. The Bills were brought in and read a first time, and after transacting some other business, the House adjourned.

There have been several deputations to ministers during the week, among them one consisting of delegates from the Boards and Vestries of the Westminster district, complaining of the expenditure of the London School Board, and another of the excessive cost of School Board Elections, especially in rural districts. The Duke of Richmond and Viscount Sandon addressed themselves in reply to the several points raised by the two deputations, pointing out, as regards the former, that the payments in London were at all events lower than in other large towns, and were only what were deemed necessary. As regards the latter, the ministers were by no means anxious to see a higher rate of expenditure maintained than was required, and offered to give their best consideration to any suggestions that might be thrown out. Another deputation waited on Mr. Secretary Cross, in reference to sundry hardships in connection with the Petroleum trade. Mr. Cross received the deputation with his usual courtsey, and having explained the nature of their complaints and wishes they thanked him cordially and withdrew. On Saturday, a deputation waited upon Lord Salisbury, on the subject of the Pollution of Rivers Bill.

The fourth day of June, being the anniversary of his late Majesty George III.'s birthday, Eton, as usual, held high festival. Generally the effect of the day's proceedings is marred by wet weather, but this year, happily, was an exception to the rule, so that everything passed off most successfully. The first part of the programme included the "speeches" in the Upper School, delivered in presence of the Provost and Fellows and a great number of distinguished visitors, including the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishops of Oxford and Lincoln, Lord Skelmersdale, &c., &c., among other visitors during the day being the Duke of Manchester, the Marquis of Worcester, Lord Middleton. The speeches embraced scenes and extracts from standard English, French, Greek, and Latin authors, the delivery being in nearly every case admirable. At two o'clock some fifty of the most distinguished visitors were entertained at lunch in Hall by the Provost and Fellows. At four there was a full choral service in Chapel. In the evening, the usual procession of boats, headed by the "Monarch," 10 oar, from the Brocas to Surley Hall took place. Here followed the usual cold collation by the river side, after which the crews rowed leisurely back, and the evening was brought to a close with an exhibition of fireworks.

This being Commemoration week at Oxford, that ancient city has been the scene of one continuous round of *fêtes*. First came a concert, given by the Philharmonic Society, Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne, and Prince Leopold being present. In the evening followed the usual procession of boats, and then again the University Ball, held in the Town Hall, which was brilliantly decorated by Messrs. Defries. The Duke of Connaught and the other members of the Royal Family already mentioned were present, together with the Right Hon. J. R. Mowbray, one of the M.P.'s for the University, Mr. Hall, M.P. for the city, the Senior Proctor and other notabilities. Among other events must be mentioned the Royal Oxfordshire Horticultural Society's show in Worcester Gardens, the Ball given by the Apollo University Lodge, No. 357, in the Town Hall, the decorations being similar to those used at the University Ball, the *fête* given by the same Lodge in the Gardens of New College, the Christchurch Ball, and the *Encœnia*, with its recitation of prize poems, and bestowal of honorary degrees on leading men of eminence in science and literature, &c., &c.

Another principal feature of the week has been Ascot, with its four days' programme of racing, its brilliant attendance of rank and fashion, with the additional attraction of royalty, including the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, the usual cavalcade, headed by the Master of the Buckhounds, and attended by whips and outriders in all the glories of scarlet and gold, reaching the course from Lord Yarborough's seat, Titness Park, shortly after noon, on Tuesday and Thursday. Of the events on Tuesday, the Ascot stakes fell to Organist, Mr. Saville's Earl of Dartrey won the Prince of Wales's stakes, and Mr. Merry's Marie Stuart the Gold Vase given by Her Majesty. On Wednesday, the Royal Hunt Cup was carried off by Mr. Dawson's Thuringian Prince, and on Thursday, the Ascot Gold Cup by Doncaster, Aventurière being second.

There has been some heavy scoring in recent cricket matches. In a match between gentlemen of M.C.C. and the Royal Artillery, the former won in one innings, with seven runs to spare, scoring 388 to the latter's 162 and 169; Messrs. Higgins and Herbert contributing to the M.C.C.'s total 113 and 100 respectively. In the Royal Marines and Royal Engineers the latter won by ten wickets, Mr. Renny-Tailyour making 89 of the total 274, while Captain Welch, 26 and 71, showed the best form for the Marines, who made 119 and 173 in their two innings. Cambridge University have beaten the Gentlemen of England, with seven wickets to spare; Messrs. Greenfield (77

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and 18), Lucas (48), Blacker (46 and not out 64), Macan (47), and Patterson (not out 21, and not out 60). For the Gentlemen, Mr. I. D. Walker (29 and 26), C. J. Thornton (41 and 64), and A. F. Smith (not out 48 and 23), were the most effective batsmen. Scores: Gentlemen 262 and 198, Cambridge 302 and 159 for three wickets. This gives an average of runs made off the bat of slightly over 26 per wicket. In a twelve a-side match between M.C.C. and Ground and Old Oxonians and Old Cantabs the latter were victorious by 10 wickets; Messrs. Green (107) and Booth (60), both late of Cambridge, being the chief operators with the willow, while for M.C.C., who made only 110 and 101, Mr. Vernon distinguished himself with a score of 74 not out. The result of the great County match, Surrey v. Gloucestershire, is a victory for the former by 26 runs. Surrey 161 and 106, Gloucestershire 99 and 142. Jupp (13 and 40), Mr. Game (25 and 23), Mr. Strachan (34 and 7), and Southerton (not out 32 and 3), played best for the former; Messrs. W. G. Grace (9 and 18), G. F. Grace (26 and 37), Crook (14 and 14), and Wyatt (10 and 37), best for the latter.

A grand sham fight took place at Aldershot on Friday last, H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, attended by a numerous staff, arriving on the ground a little after 10 in the morning. The troops formed two divisions, the northern and the southern, the former representing an invading force, and the latter acting on the defensive. The operations continued till the afternoon, when the invaders were driven back. The Commander-in-Chief expressed himself satisfied with the cavalry movements, after which the troops marched past, and returned to barracks about 2 p.m. After lunch at the Royal Pavilion, with the Duke of Connaught, the Royal visitors returned to London.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales presided on Saturday at the fifteenth anniversary banquet of the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution, held at Willis's Rooms, St. James's. Two hundred and fifty gentlemen sat down, including such prominent supporters of agriculture as the Marquis of Huntley, the Earl of Hardwicke, Earl Spencer, Lord Walsingham, Mr. H. Gerald Sturt, Colonel Loyd-Lindsay, Mr. Clare S. Read, Mr. Mechi. The toast of the evening "success to the Institution," was proposed in very felicitous term by His Royal Highness, and most enthusiastically received, after which the secretary read out a list of subscriptions—including one from Her Majesty of £25, and one of one hundred guineas from the Prince—to the amount of £8,000. The health of the ladies was afterwards proposed, and associated with it was the name of Mr. Mechi. Soon after this the Prince retired, amid great cheers. The same evening the Duke of Connaught presided at the ceremony of opening some new schools at Hoxton, in connection with the Haberdashers' Company; the Lord and Lady Mayoress, Mr. Alderman Cotton, Sir Charles Reed, Chairman of the London School Board, being also present. The Duke having made a tour of inspection round the building, which is intended to provide education for 600 children of the neighbourhood, and having expressed his approval of what he had seen, the simple ceremony of declaring the building open was then performed, after which the company adjourned to a pavilion erected for the occasion in the Girls' play ground. The usual toasts having been drunk, the Duke left, amid the hearty cheers of the crowds assembled. A guard of honour of 100 men from the Royal London Militia, under Captain Sewell, was in attendance, together with the bands of that regiment and the Honourable Artillery Company. H.R.H. the Duchess of Teck was present at the annual examination of, and distribution of prizes among the pupils of the Alexandra Orphanage, taking great interest in the proceedings, and being cordially thanked for attending on the occasion.

The annual dinner of the Newspaper Press Fund will be held this day, under the presidency of the Very Rev. the Dean of Westminster. It is expected the gathering will be a very distinguished one, and several eminent *artistes* will take part in the concert, which will be held under the direction of Sir Julius Benedict. We wish the fund all success.

We imagine Wells-street, South Hackney, must be an unpleasant locality to live in. A certain William Henson carries on there the business of a tripe boiler and fat melter. The South Hackneians, if partial to tripe and fat as articles of food, have evidently a strong, and not unnatural objection to the stench arising from their preparation. Accordingly, in consequence of several complaints made by sundry of the inhabitants, Dr. Tripe, the medical officer of the Hackney District, called for the purpose of inspecting the tripe-seller's premises, and found them too filthy even for his accustomed stomach, so he beat a retreat. Hence the summons heard on Tuesday, before Mr. Hannay, at the Worship-street Police Court. The case was proved, and worse still, that a cowshed with some 20 or 30 cows, a pig-stye with 40 pigs, and a stable in which were kept about 60 horses, were in the neighbourhood of the offensive premises. Mr. Hannay said the defendant was liable to a penalty of £200, but he only inflicted a fine of £3, with 12s 6d costs, a rather inadequate punishment, we think, for poisoning the air of a large and populous district. Cannot some means be devised for compelling those who follow this and similar noxious trades to remove to uninhabited districts, where they will have at all events only themselves to injure in the matter of health.

In the musical world there has been nothing special to record. The performances at the two opera houses have been of the usual character. Semiramide was performed at Her Majesty's on Saturday, and, as usual, Mdlle. Titiens created a *furore* by her magnificent impersonation of the Assyrian Queen, while equally to be admired was Madame Trebelli-Bettini as Arsace. The opera was repeated on Thursday. The intermediate evenings here been devoted to Faust on Monday, and La Sonnambula on Friday. This evening will be produced Lohengrin, with Madame Christine Nilsson as Elsa di Brabante. At the Royal Italian, there have been played Lohengrin, La Traviata, Le Nozze di Figaro, La Figlia del Reggimento, and Il Flauto Magico. The New Philarmonic gave its fourth concert on Saturday, and the same evening Mr. Arthur Sullivan's "Musical Folly," entitled *The Zoo*, proved a decided success at the St. James's Theatre. Signor Salvini's impersonations of Hamlet and Othello alternate at Drury Lane, and there is a morning performance every Monday afternoon, Hamlet being fixed for Monday next.

Mrs. Giacometti Prodgers—the lady who so manfully and so often engages in disputes with the London cabmen—has just appeared in a new character. On Thursday, the publisher of the *Daily Telegraph* was summoned to answer a charge of assault brought against him by this lady. She appears to have entered his office, on the 26th ult., for the purpose of buying a copy of our contemporary. She was served with one, and at first refused to pay so much as the penny demanded for it. She at length put down half-a-sovereign, but the clerk would give her no change. She was then passing out with the paper, as well as the money, when the defendant stepped up and objected. In doing so he seems to have placed his hand on her shoulder, and also to have trodden on her dress, which was a very long one. He offered to apologise for the accident, but failed to recognise that he had committed any assault. Mrs. Prodgers thought otherwise, and hence the summons, which the worthy Alderman Besley dismissed. Moral for Mrs. Prodgers—condescend to pay for a penny newspaper when you buy one; "put *silver* in thy purse" if it is unladylike to carry copper, and don't wear too long a train; for the publisher of the *Daily Telegraph*—don't be too impressive in your remonstrances when ladies object to pay, at all events leave no impression on the backs of their dresses.

We were premature in our announcement last week of the death of the eminent French Academician and Statesman, M. C. de Remusat, but, unhappily, by a few days only, for the event has since happened, and France has lost the services of one of her ablest and most patriotic public men. It was M. de Remusat who presided at the Foreign Office when his friend, M. Thiers, was at the head of the Republic, and his labours to get rid of the occupying army were at length successful, and the Germans retired over the frontier sooner than had been stipulated. From India, we hear there has been a terrible conflagration at Peshawur, nearly one half of the city having been destroyed, in spite of the efforts of the European soldiery to stay the flames. Measles also has been raging horribly in our newly acquired dependency, the Fiji Islands. Germany is still talking about the conduct of our Government; the Sultan of Zanzibar has reached our shores on a visit, to learn what we are like. The Spanish Government is going, it is said, to commence a new attempt to overwhelm the Carlists, but the latter, we imagine, will take a good deal of overwhelming, while our friend the Pope—who does us so much more good by abusing us, than he would do if he left us alone—he, we suppose is hardly in the condition described in the song. We hope at least that "he leads a

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happy life"—though we fear he occasionally makes acquaintance with not a few "cares" and not a little "strife," but much of this is his own fault.

The committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys met on Saturday, 5th June, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Bro. John Symonds P.G.D. in the chair. Bro. F. Binckes, secretary, read the minutes of the former meeting, also the report of the House Committee, which were confirmed. Five petitions were accepted. The election for brethren to serve on the House Committee took place, and the following were duly elected:—Brothers Henry Browse P.G.D., J. Giles Chancellor, Henry Dubosc sen., Benj. Head, Benj. Mallam, W. F. C. Montrie, W. Paas, W. H. Pullen P.G.D., William Roebuck, Sigismund Rosenthal, R. W. Stewart P.G.S.B., John Wordsworth. The following brethren, nominated on 1st May 1875, being the number required, became this day duly elected without ballot, to serve on the audit committee:—Bros. John Boyd P.G.P., J. W. Dosell, Benjamin Head P.G.D., W. Mann, D. W. Pearse, W. H. Pullen P.G.S.B., James Terry, Jesse Turner, R. B. Webster. Bros. T. Cubitt P.G.P., Webster, Jardine and Diaper were appointed Scrutineers. Votes of thanks to the Chairman and Scrutineers were unanimously accorded, and the meeting adjourned. We beg to state that the Right W. Bro. Lord Balfour of Burleigh P.G.S.W. will distribute the prizes on the 30th June, in place of the M.W. Earl of Carnarvon Pro G. M.

The regular meeting of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution was held on Wednesday, the 9th instant, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Bro. Major Creaton P.G.D. V.P. in the chair. Bro. Jas. Terry, secretary, read the minutes of the former meeting, and the report of the House Committee, which was received and adopted. The Finance Committee was appointed, viz., Bro. Major Creaton P.G.D., J. Hervey G.S., H. G. Warren and W. Hale. The House Committee was re-elected, Bros. Major Creaton, B. Head, J. Smith, R. W. Stewart and J. A. Farnfield. The resignation of Mr. Jones, a junior clerk in the office, was accepted. There were also present Bros. Rawson, J. Nunn, J. A. Farnfield, T. Cubitt, G. Bolton, J. Smith, J. Stevens, J. M. Stedwell, W. Hale, L. Stean, W. Hall, H. G. Warren, A. W. Tattershall, Robert Wentworth Little, J. Bellerby, H. M. Levy, &c.

Bro. Sir Frederick Perkins, M.P. has been appointed by the R.W. the Earl of Limerick, M.W.G.M. Grand Mark Lodge, as Senior Grand Warden.

At the forthcoming election of Sheriffs for the City of London it is understood that Bro. Alderman Knight (Grand Master's Lodge, No. 1) is willing to accept office, if elected. The Right Hon the Lord Mayor, Bro. D. H. Stone G.J.W., has nominated Mr. G. Hamilton Fletcher, of 34 Leadenhall Street, ship owner, who is a freeman of the Fishmongers' Company.

With regret we have to announce the death of Bro. Sidney Spencer, late Proprietor of the Terminus Hotel, and of the Cliftonville Hotel, Margate, which took place at Shottendane, Margate, in the 49th year of his age. He was a member of the Lion and Lamb and William Preston Lodges. The funeral takes place at Maidstone, this day (Saturday.)

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All Letters and communications must be addressed to the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, 67 *Barbican, London, E.C.*

SENIOR.—Many thanks for your kind offer. The suggestion shall be well considered.

W. W.—Our journal was established to promote the best principles of Freemasonry; to follow the course you advocate would be in direct opposition to those principles.

A. B. C. AND OTHERS.—We cannot undertake to reply to anonymous correspondents.

DE LA RUE'S INTERNATIONAL PLAYING CARDS.—Portraits of the Royalty of Europe. Post free, 2s 6d. W. W. Morgan, 67 Barbican, London, E.C.

THE DRAMA.

"Heartsease" at the Princess's Theatre—"The Zoo" at the St. James's.

La Dame aux Camelias is hardly an immoral drama, indeed it ought to be considered moral, inasmuch as the chief sinner of the piece receives the scriptural wages of sin, death; but for some reason, best known to the highly sensitive modesty of our Lord Chamberlain, its representation in England, except in an operatic form, has been prohibited. All playgoers, however, are familiar with the story, as all musical people know the music of *La Traviata*. It is this piece which Mr. Mortimer has attempted to adapt so that it shall not be offensive to British morals, and which he has re-named *Heartsease*. As is usual in adaptations from the French, in attempting to get rid of the immorality of the story much of its intelligibility and more of its point have been lost. Mr. Mortimer has removed his Traviata, Constance Hawthorne by name, from the regions of the demi-monde, and transformed her into an actress, living under suspicious circumstances it is true, and receiving, as gifts from her admirers, a large number of jewels, a practice which we hope is not common with virtuous ladies; but still, we are assured, she is perfectly pure, but by so changing her character Mr. Mortimer has destroyed the effect of the scene in which the father of her lover appeals to her not to cause the social ruin of his son by marrying him; a marriage with a courtesan would, in most cases, be discreditable to a man, but no possible objection could be made to an union with an actress, so that Constance's resignation of her lover on these grounds is incomprehensible, and the motive of the play is lost. No doubt the piece could not have been played in London without this sacrifice at the shrine of morality, but why need it have been played at all? As it is, Mr. Mortimer's attempt at Bowdlerising has mangled an effective drama without producing a particularly good taste in the mouth. *Heartsease* is fairly acted by Miss Helen Barry, who plays Constance, and well by Mr. W. Rignold, who represents her lover. The want of success of the other performers ought perhaps to be ascribed to the shortcomings of the author, not to their own incompetency. The piece was received with some unusually strong expressions of disfavour, attributable in part, we believe, to Mr. Mortimer's unpopularity with a section of the audience, but the verdict of the public on any new drama is generally a just one, and there is no reason to believe that a mistake has been made in this instance. In justice to M. Dumas, any adaptation of his play should have been as faithful and unadulterated as possible, and should not have been subjected to any sham purifying process of Mr. Mortimer's invention.

Miss Litton has found a fitting pendant to the extravagant humour of *Tom Cobb* in a little musical piece, by Messrs. Sullivan and Rowe, called "The Zoo." Although much slighter in construction than "Trial by Jury," it belongs to the same class, and is in its way quite as admirable. The story is concerned with the doings of two pairs of lovers at the Zoo; the young lady at the refreshment counter, and the Duke of Islington, disguised as a footman, and eating all the tarts and buns in satisfying his amorous passion, being one couple, whilst two visitors to the Gardens form the other, the male of these being bent on committing suicide by a descent into the bear's den at feeding time. The vicissitudes incidental to the course of true love are funnily portrayed, and set to some charming music. The dialogue, of which not one word is spoken, is neat and witty, and the piece has the advantage of the assistance of Miss Henrietta Hodson, who plays the fascinating Hebe with all imaginable archness and grace. Such a pleasant musical folly is a fitting wind-up to an evening of pure comedy, and a most welcome substitute for the old fashioned wearisome farce.

THE FISHMONGER IN LEATHER LANE.—"Now!" roars the hatless thick-set trader, as he grasps a large plaice with his great thumb driven into its gills, and flops it into the water to give it a fresh appearance. "Here y' ar!" Then he roars again, as with three bangs of his knife on the block he cuts off the fish's tail and two side fins—"Who'll 'ave this lot? who'll 'ave it for sixpence—fivepence—*fourpence?*" This last as he chops off its head and throws it into half a sheet of newspaper, for the inspection of the public. "The whole bloomin' lot for fourpence," he adds, persuasively. It is promptly bought, and "Come on, come on!" shouts the merchant again, "as many as yer like; I'm ready for yer; who'll 'ave this lot for fourpence? any number on 'em 'ere, who'll 'ave this lot?"—(bang—bang—bang)—"'ere y'ar for fourpence—*fourpence!*" (yelled out with crimson face and starting eyes)—"Here, take it away;" and he pitches it into the arms of a thin, wan woman, with a child at her breast, and gives her two fishy pennies in exchange for her sixpence. "Who's on again?"—(bang—bang—bang)—"who's for this lot? Oh, you may smell 'em, missus; and now go home and tell the old man there's a chap in Leather Lane selling fish as don't stink—fourpence. Will y' 'ave it?" And she does have it, as most of the crowd do eventually, for the man's fish are prodigiously cheap, and how he manages to sell them so is his business, and not Leather Lane's.—*Cassell's Family Magazine.*

A VALUABLE RELIC.—We have been shown by our esteemed Bro. William Steffe, P.M. of Mozart Lodge, No. 236, of this city (and some twenty years ago of Division H, 4, Central High School, where no one who was there can never forget him), a copy of the *Ulster County Gazette*, Kingston, New York, of date Saturday, January 4, A.D. 1800. It is an excellently preserved sheet, although the paper is thoroughly browned by age. Its inside pages are in deep mourning, on account of the death of Bro. General George Washington, which occurred on December 14th, 1799. An interesting account is given of the entombment of our distinguished Brother, at Mount Vernon, on Wednesday, December 17th, 1799. Among the mourners are mentioned his "Masonic Brethren." The proceedings in Congress, on December 20th, upon the announcement of his death, are also given. This is a valuable relic of the olden times, and Bro. Steffe justly values it highly.—*The Keystone.*

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DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be greatly obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the kingdom would favour us with a copy of their summonses each time of issue.

SATURDAY, 12th JUNE.

176—Caveac, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
1361—United Service, Greyhound, Richmond.
1496—Mount Edgcumbe, Swan Tavern, Bridge-road, Battersea.

306—Prince George, Bottoms, Eastwood.

K. T.—Faith, Masonic Rooms, Wigan.

SUNDAY, 13th JUNE.

56—Temperance, Masonic Hall, Todmorden.

K. T.—Plains of Rama, Masonic Club, Keighley.

MONDAY, 14th JUNE.

29—St. Albans, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
45—Strong Man, Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell Green, at 8. (Instruction).

R. A. 1319—Asaph, Freemasons' Hall.

40—Derwent, Castle Hotel, High Street, Hastings.
61—Probity, Freemasons' Hall, Halifax.
68—Royal Clarence, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
75—Love and Honour, Royal Hotel, Falmouth.
88—Scientific, Red Lion, Petty Cury, Cambridge.
89—Unanimity, Astley Arms Hotel, Dukinfield.
104—St. John's, Wellington Hotel, Stockport.
105—Fortitude, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
139—Britannia, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
151—Albany, Masonic Hall, Newport, I.W.
189—Sincerity, St. George's Hall, East Stonehouse.
230—St. Hilda, Freemasons' Hall, South Shields.
264—Nelson of the Nile, Freemasons' Hall, Batley.
292—Sincerity, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
293—King's Friends, Lamb Inn, Nantwich.
296—Royal Brunswick, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
314—Peace and Unity, Militia Mess Rooms, Preston.
406—Three Graces, Private Room, Haworth.
467—Tudor, Red Lion Hotel, Mumps, Oldham.
613—Unity, Masonic Hall, Stockport.
650—Star in the East, Pier Hotel, Harwich.
681—Fawcett, New Masonic Hall, Seaham Harbour.
685—Montagu, Royal Lion, Lyme Regis.
949—Williamson, Royal Hotel, Monkwearmouth, Sunderland.
1021—Hartington, Royal Hotel, Barrow-in-Furness.
1221—Defence, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
1250—Gilbert Greenall, Masonic Rooms, Warrington.
1406—Stamford and Warrington, Drovers' Inn, Stalybridge.
1514—Thornhill, Masonic Room, Dearn House, Lindley, Yorks.

R. A. 827—St. Johns, Masonic Temple, Dewsbury.
R. A.—Jerusalem, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.

TUESDAY, 15th JUNE.

Board of General Purposes, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.

R. A. 186—Industry, Freemasons' Hall.

51—Angel, Three Cups Hotel, Colchester.
57—Humber, Freemasons' Hall, Hull.
126—Silent Temple, Cross Keys Inn, Burnley.
819—Union, Masonic Rooms, Carlisle.
432—Frederick Lodge of Unity, Station Hotel, Sutton.
667—Alliance, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
696—St. Bartholomew, Dartmouth Arms Hotel, Wednesbury.
897—Loyalty, Fleece Inn, St. Helens.
979—Four Cardinal Virtues, Crewe Arms Hotel, Crewe.
986—Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston.
1042—Excelsior, Freemasons' Hall, Leeds.
1075—St. Mangbold, Masonic Rooms, Ramsey.
1166—Carendon, Queen's Hotel, Hyde.
1214—Scarborough, Station Hotel, Soothill, Batley.
1256—Fidelity, Black Bull, Poulton.
1276—Warren, Stanley Arms, Seacombe.

R. A. 11—Enoch, Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 80—St. John's, Queen's Hotel, Sunderland.
R. A. 933—Doric, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street.

WEDNESDAY, 16th JUNE.

190—Oak, Freemasons' Hall.
193—Confidence, White Hart, Abchurch Lane, at 7.30. (Instruction).
1150—Buckingham and Chandos, Freemasons' Hall.
1382—Corinthian, George Inn, Glengall Road, Isle of Dogs.

R. A. 10—Westminster and Keystone, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street.
R. A. 13 5—St. Marylebone, British Stores, New Street, St. John's Wood.

86—Loyalty, Royal Hotel, Prescot.
116—Royal Lancashire, Swan Hotel, Colne.
125—Prince Edwin's, White Hart, Hythe, Kent.
128—Prince Edwin, Bridge Inn, Bolton-street, Bury.
137—Amity, Masonic Hall, Poole.
221—St. John, Commercial Hotel, Bolton.
243—Loyalty, Masonic Hall, Guernsey.
246—Royal Union, Freemasons' Hall, Cheltenham.
254—Amphibious, Freemasons' Hall, Heckmondwike.
277—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Oldham.
285—Love and Honour, George Hotel, Shepton Mallet.
287—Unanimity, Dog and Partridge, Stockport.
288—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Todmorden.
290—Huddersfield, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield.
299—Emulation, Bull Hotel, Dartford. (Instruction.)
311—South Saxon, Freemasons' Hall, Lewes.
329—Loyalty, Junction Inn, Mottram.
371—Concord, Golden Ball Inn, Stockport.
325—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Salford.
329—Brotherly Love, Clough's Inn, Yeovil.
334—Sincerity, George Hotel, Sandbach.
360—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Mosley, Yorks.
367—Airedale, Masonic Hall, Westgate, Shipley.
451—Portcullis, Queen's Arms Inn, Newton Moor.
481—Perfect, Gerard's Arms Inn, Ashton-in-Mark.
502—Belvidere, Star Hotel, Maidstone. (Instruction.)
533—Eaton, Bull's Head, Congleton.
555—Harmony, Wrangthorn Inn, Ormskirk.
561—Faith, Dover's Inn, Openshaw.
591—Buckingham, George Hotel, Aylesbury. (Festival.)
619—Caledon, Freemasons' Hall, Ipswich. (Instruction.)
625—Devonshire, New York Arms, Glossop.
653—Yarborough, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
654—Peveril of Peak, Crown Hotel, New Mills.
679—St. Davids, Black Lion Hotel, Aberdare.
765—Ellesmere, Freemasons' Hall, Runcorn.

WEDNESDAY, 16th JUNE—continued.

823—Everton, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
910—St. Oswald, Masonic Hall, Pontefract.
962—Sun and Sector, Portland-square, Workington.
1004—Athol, Douglas Hotel, Douglas, Isle of Man.
1019—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Wakefield.
1070—Starkie, Black Horse, Kirkham.
1096—Walton, Masonic Hall, Kirkdale.
1129—St. Chad, Roebuck Hotel, Rochdale.
1161—De Grey and Ripon, Corporation Hotel, Ardwick.
1183—Duke of Edinburgh, Coffee House, Wavertree.
1218—Prince Alfred, Commercial Hotel, Moseley.
1301—Brighouse, Masonic Rooms, Brighouse, Yorks.
1334—Norman, Freemasons' Hall, Durham.
1346—Victoria, Cross Keys Inn, Eccles.
1383—Duke of Lancaster, Athenæum, St. Leonard's Gate, Lancaster.

R. A. 820—Lily Chapter of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond.
M.M. 31—Fidelity, Norfolk Arms Hotel, Hyde, Cheshire.

THURSDAY, 17th JUNE.

House Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
1320—Blackheath, Crown Hotel, Blackheath.

43—Relief, Albion Hotel, Bury.
56—Howard, Town Hall, Arundel.
71—Unity, Masonic Hall, Lowestoft.
99—St. Martin's, Board Room, Town Hall, Burslem.
203—Ancient Union, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
208—Three Grand Principles, Masonic Hall, Dewsbury.
267—Unity, Macclesfield Arms, Macclesfield.
269—Union, Queen's Arms Inn, Ashton-under-Lyne.
275—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield.
285—Amity, Swan Inn, Haslingden.
286—Samaritan, Green Man Hotel, Bacup.
336—Benevolence, Jolly Sailor, Marple.
337—Candour, Commercial Inn, Uppermill, Yorks.
343—Concord, King's Arms Hotel, Preston.
344—Faith, Bull's Head, Radcliffe.
345—Perseverance, Old Bull Hotel, Blackburn.
346—United Brethren, Royal Oak Inn, Clayton le-Dale.
361—Industry, Norfolk Arms, Hyde.
369—Limestone Rock, Swan Hotel, Clitheroe.
462—Accrington, Hargreaves Hotel, Accrington.
531—St. Helen's, Masonic Hall, Hartlepool.
600—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Bradford.
606—Combermere, Seacombe Hotel, Seacombe.
630—St. Cuthbert's, Parson Lane, Howden.
816—Royds, Spring Gardens Inn, Wardle, near Rochdale.
940—Philanthrophy, Freemasons' Hall, Stockton-on-Tees.
960—Hesketh, Fleetwood Hotel, Fleetwood.
1011—Richmond, Crown Hotel, Salford.
1032—Townley Parker, Howard's Arms Hotel, Whittle-Springs.
1042—Excelsior, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
1125—St. Oswald, Wynnstay Arms Hotel, Oswestry.
1227—Upton, Spotted Dog Tavern, Upton, Essex.
1299—Pembroke, West Derby Hotel, West Derby.

R. A. 317—Affability, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
K. T.—William de la More, New Court House, Prescot.

FRIDAY, 18th JUNE.

House Committee, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
6—Friendship, Willis's Rooms, King-street, St. James's.
1118—University, Freemasons' Hall.
1507—Metropolitan, 269 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)

R. A. 92—Moira, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.

152—Virtue, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
219—Prudence, Masonic Hall, Todmorden.
318—True and Faithful, Masonic Rooms, Helston, Cornwall.
401—Royal Forest, Mark-to-Bounty Inn, Slaidburn, Yorks.
516—Phœnix, Fox Hotel, Stowmarket.
652—Holme Valley, Victoria Hotel, Holmfirth.
830—Endeavour, Queen's Arms, Dukinfield.
975—Rose of Denmark, White Hart, Barnes.
993—Alexandra, Midway Hotel, Levenshulme.
1034—Ecclesbill, Freemasons' Hall, Ecclesbill, Yorks.
1108—Wharfedale, Private Room, Westgate, Otley.
1311—Zetland, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
1479—Halsey, Town Hall, St. Albans. (Emergency.)

R. A. 521—Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Huddersfield.
R. A. 537—Marquess Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon.

SATURDAY, 19th JUNE.

1195—Lewis, King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green.

149—Peace, Masonic Rooms, Meltham.

IRELAND.

MONDAY—154—Prince of Wales' Own Lodge, Masonic Hall, Belfast.
" 270—St. George's, Enniscorthy, Wexford.
" 297—Abercorn, Masonic Hall, Waterford.
" 431—Prince Frederick William of Prussia, Masonic Hall, Ballymena.
WEDNESDAY—9—Muses, Masonic Hall, Dungannon, Tyrone.
" 350—Coppagh, Masonic Hall, Omagh.
THURSDAY—12—Meridian, Freemasons' Hall, Dublin.
" 83—Dublin, Freemasons' Hall, Dublin.
" 129—Industry, Bundoran, Donegal.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—145—St. Stephen, St. James's Hall, Writer's-court.
TUESDAY—36—St. David, Ship Hotel, East Register Street.
" 905—Kilfe, Freemasons' Hall.
WEDNESDAY—160—Roman Eagle, Iona Hotel, 62 Nicholson Street.
THURSDAY—48—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall.
" 220—Portobello, Royal Hotel, Bath Street.
" R. A. 152—Perseverance, Lodge Room, 92 Constitution Street.
FRIDAY.—R. A. 83—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

United Industrious Lodge, No. 31, Canterbury.—The usual monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, the 3rd of June. Present—Bros. Capt. P. H. Knight W.M., Biggleston S.W., B. Browning J.W., Wiltshier S.D., Plant J.D., Tice Org., Dean I.G.; P.M.'s John R. Hall Hon. Sec., Higham, Holttum, Pilcher 972, White 972, Gardner 357, and several other brethren. The minutes of the last Lodge night were read and confirmed. The gavel having been placed in the hands of Bro. Hall P.M., Bro. Longhurst was raised to the sublime degree of M.M., according to ancient custom. Bro. John Green Hall was elected W.M. for the year ensuing, Bro.

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Higham Treasurer, Bro. Holttum Almoner. A ballot was taken for the admission of Mr. D. T. Smith, yeoman, Littlebourne, into the mysteries and privileges of Ancient Free and Accepted Masonry, which the W.M. declared unanimous. Some other business was transacted, and the Lodge adjourned until Thursday, the 7th October next, emergencies excepted.

Royal Shamrock Lodge, No. 32.—The monthly meeting was held on 3rd of June, at Olaves Place, Waterford. Present:—Bros. Thomas Atherton W.M., Thomas Andrews S.W., Henry Waugh J.W., James W. Andrews S.D., George Hassett J.D., Peter Whaller D.C., Thomas Trigge Steward. David Atherton I.G., James Richardson Tyler, Samuel H. Perry Secretary. John Sanderland P.M. Treasurer; Past Masters Bros. H. D. Palmer, Thomas Slator, Robert Whalley sen., Robert Whalley jun.; Visitors, Bros. Elwin, Murray and Price 5, Hiscox 1420 (English), Vokes 297, and about 30 brethren. Business transacted:—Lodge opened in 1st degree; minutes read and confirmed; correspondence read, and one gentleman initiated; after which the Lodge was duly closed, and the brethren separated.

Warnesford Lodge, No. 70.—A meeting of this Lodge was held on 2nd June, at Tullyniskey, when the following brethren were duly elected officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. Hugh Dennison W.M., Andrew Creighton S.W., Samuel Back J.W., John Lavery S.D., William Atheson J.D., James Rown D.C., Robt. Nelson I.G., John Dennison Tyler, Wm. Graham Secretary and Treasurer.

Prudent Brethren Lodge, No. 145. — The summer banquet will be held on the 13th of July, at the Alexandra Palace, under the presidency of Bro. G. Parkiss, the W.M., with the co-operation of Bros. John Boyd P.G.P., J. Last Treasurer, G. S. States P.G.S. Secretary, T. Bull I.P.M., and a numerous assemblage of the brethren who have signified their intention to be present. From the well-known qualifications of the W.M. a very happy and enjoyable day is anticipated.

Joppa Lodge, No. 188.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Monday, 7th inst., at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate Street, City. Present:—Bros. S. Hickman W.M., A. G. Dodson S.W., L. Lazarus J.W., Miller S.D., H. Hymans D.C., M. Spiegel as I.G., E. P. Albert, Assistant Grand Pursuivant, Secretary; L. Auerbaan Treasurer, P. E. Van Noorden Org.; P.M.'s Bros. H. Berkowitz, L. Alexander, H. M. Levy, O. Roberts, E. H. Hunt, M. Van Diepheenim, J. Phillips and Israel Abrahams. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Messrs. J. Creamer, H. Creamer and J. Bitton having been balloted for, were duly initiated into the Order. A notice of motion was given by Bro. O. Roberts I.P.M., that in future the fees for initiation be £10 10s, and the joining fee £8 8s; this was seconded by Bro. H. M. Levy P.M., and was carried unanimously. The Lodge was then called off, and the brethren, 109 in number, sat down to an elegant banquet provided by Bro. W. G. Jennings, the worthy manager, and superintended by Bro. Keeping. The W.M. then proposed the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts. In proposing the toast of the Earl of Carnarvon and the rest of the Grand Officers, he spoke in eulogistic terms of one of their members who had been selected to fill the post of Grand Assistant Pursuivant. This brother was one who was well worthy to fill such an office, as every one present knew and appreciated his Masonic and other qualifications. Bro. E. P. Albert, in genial terms, returned thanks for the toast. The W.M., in proposing the Benevolent Fund, dilated on the benefits arising therefrom. He informed the brethren that it had in the hands of the Treasurer the sum of £1,100, and that amount had been increased by the contributions of the newly initiated brethren. Bros. Creamer and Dixon had contributed the sum of 21s each, Stransky 10s 6d, J. Rutherford (second donation) 21s, and Master M. Auerbaan and L. M. Auerbaan, sons of Bro. M. Auerbaan, 10s 6d each. (Cheers.) Bro. L. Alexander P.M. and V.P. responded to the toast, and informed the brethren that the sum of £50 had been added to the fund. The W.M., in proposing the toast of the newly initiated, gave a very excellent illustration of the duties required of them in their future Masonic career, for they had been so highly recommended that he was sure they would be a credit to the Order. Bros. Dixon and Creamer returned thanks for the toast. The toast of the visitors was received with prolonged cheers, the W.M. saying he was pleased to see among them one whom they were all proud to have present, viz. Bro. J. Sebag. (Cheers.) That brother had very disinterestedly done all he could to further the interests of the Joppa Benevolent Fund; his name was sufficient to ensure him individually, and also the visitors, a hearty welcome. For the former brother, although this was the first time he had been present, he hoped he (the W.M.), as well as the Lodge, would feel honoured by his presence. Bro. J. Sebag returned thanks for the visitors, and said he fully appreciated the kind words of the W.M. He thanked the brethren for their kind expressions; his services were always at their command in every capacity, and he had to thank them for the pleasant reception the visitors had met with this evening. He would, if any occasion should require it, be happy to contribute to the fund, and he would never forget the kindness shown to him and the visitors; he might say that the Lodge of Joppa may be proud of its Master, and also the Benevolent Fund. (Loud cheers.) Bro. O. Roberts proposed the toast of the W.M., whom he said had so perfectly, during his year of office, performed the ceremonies, and also had ably presided over the brethren. (Cheers.) The W.M., in responding, said how pleased he was to see that perfect harmony had prevailed during his year of office, and that was sufficient to show that his humble efforts had been crowned with success, to the satisfaction of the brethren. That was his aim on taking the chair, and he hoped on the expiration of office to meet their approbation. The toast of the P.M.'s was responded to by Bros. O. Roberts, I. Abrahams and H. M. Levy. The toast of the Wardens, and that of the Treasurer and Secretary, Bros. E. P. Albert and L. Auerbaan, who returned thanks, followed. The toast of the Junior Officers followed, and Bros. L. Auerbaan and Stransky each gave an additional sum of 21s and 10s 6d, and Mrs. Auerbaan 10s 6d to the Benevolent Fund. The Lodge was then called on, and several propositions for joining and initiation were handed in. The Lodge was then closed until October. The W.M. provided a very excellent concert, under the management of Bro. P. E. Van Noorden, the Organist of the Lodge, and included the names of Bro. V. Thomas, the Misses Vere, Bacon and Stuart; Bro. P. E. Van Nooeden accompanying on the piano, he also singing a very capital buffo song. The visitors were Bros. Hyde Pullen P.G.S.B., J. Sebag 113, Wills 144, King 1348, Morgan 1011, M. S. Latham 1216, J. M. Loewenstark 1360, Kemp 27 and 1340, Hine 1498, McDonald 1158, W. Holloway 1158, Beales 902, H. Myers 205, Dr. Ring 1017, R. Lester 889, W. A. Morgan 1044, Birch, &c.

St. John's Lodge, No. 279, Leicester.—The last meeting of the season was held at Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, on Wednesday, 2nd June. There were present:—Bros. J. W. Smith W.M., A. Palmer I.P.M., J. M. MacAllister S.W., G. W. Statham J.W., W. Weare P.M. Treasurer, Clement Edwin Stretton Secretary, J. Ewing 1391 as J.D., J. Orlando Law I.G., Clement Stretton P.P.G.W., G. Toller P.P.G.S.W., S. S. Partridge 279, W.M. 523, F. J. Baines P.M. 523, J. T. Thorp W.M. Elect 523, The Rev. T. W. Gordon, J. Jesson 279, J. W. Gibson 73 Limerick, E. Mason S.W. 1391, S. Knight 1391, F. J. Smith 523, and others. The Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. The W.M. appointed and invested Bro. the Rev. T. W. Gordon as Chaplain of the Lodge. He then proceeded to initiate two candidates, Mr. Crick and Mr. Manton, and recommended to their consideration the beauties of our mystic art in a manner which could not fail to impress their minds with a reverence for the grand principles upon which our Order is founded. The charge was very ably delivered by Bro. Partridge W.M. 523. The Lodge having been closed in due form, the brethren partook of refreshment, after which the Loyal and Masonic toasts followed in due order.

St. John's Lodge, No. 795.—The regular meeting of this summer Lodge was held on Tuesday, at the Ray Mead Hotel, Maidenhead. Present—Bros. C. Monle jun. W.M., T. A. Carr P.M. as S.W., Hubert Turner J.W., H. H. Hodges P.M. Secretary, J. R. Foulger P.M. C. Gammon P.M. and Treasurer was absent through indisposition. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. A ballot was taken for the admission of Mr. Deacon (the proprietor of the hotel), which was unanimously in his favour, and he, by the courtesy of the W.M., was duly initiated by Bro. J. R. Foulger P.M., in a very impressive style; several candidates were proposed for initiation at the next meeting, and the Lodge was closed. The brethren then adjourned to the banquet, supplied by the worthy host, the newly initiated brother. The usual toasts were given and responded to, and when the toast of "The Past Masters" was given, the W.M. regretted the absence of Bro. C. Gammon, who had met with a very severe accident, but added, he was pleased to inform the brethren Bro. Gammon was rapidly recovering, and he would only be too happy to see him among them on their next meeting. The Tyler's toast was given, and the brethren returned to town.

Clones Masonic Lodge, No. 881, Ireland.—The usual monthly meeting of this Lodge was held in the Lodge Rooms, Thompson's Hotel. Bros. E. J. Elliott W.M., Rev. T. R. Conway S.W. *pro tem*, John Robinson J.W., J. W. Presho S.D., T. Lough J.D. *pro tem*, J. Elliott Treasurer, F. G. Fitzgerald Sec., Rev. A. Rea Chaplain, W. M. Fitzgerald I.G., W. Heaney Tyler. Past Masters Elliott, Fitzgerald, Martin and Patterson. Visitors—Bros. McCrudin, Higgins and Hurst. Business of a routine character being disposed of, a ballot was taken for Mr. James Armstrong, and found clear. Mr. Armstrong being in attendance, was duly initiated into the Order by Bro. P.M. J. Patterson, in his usual good style. The Lodge was then closed in due and ancient form, after which the brethren adjourned for refreshment, when the following toasts were given: "The Queen," "The Prince of Wales," "The Rest of the Royal Family," "The Newly Initiated," "Visitors," &c. The brethren separated, after spending a very enjoyable evening.

Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 1012, Bury (Lancashire).—At the current monthly meeting of the above named Lodge, Bro. H. Heys P.M. in the chair, it was resolved, on the motion of Bro. Heys, seconded by Bro. W. Handley P.M., that Bro. Henry Maiden, Secretary, write letters of condolence to the families of deceased Brothers Robert Wright O'Neil and Richard Battersby, the former of whom was the last appointed Worshipful Master, and the latter Senior Deacon of the Lodge, and both of whom were accidentally thrown into the sea and drowned while on a yachting excursion in Morecombe Bay, on Whit Thursday. Brother Battersby's body has not been recovered. As a mark of respect to the departed brethren, the Lodge was closed immediately after the passing of the foregoing resolution, which was the only subject that engaged the attention of the meeting.

Royal Edward Lodge, No. 1088.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held at the house of Bro. Joe Byrom, Commercial Hotel, Melbourne Street, Stalybridge, on Thursday, the 3rd inst. A considerable number of members and visitors were present, including Bro. C. Goddard P.P.S.G.D. and P.M., T. Bowers P.P.A.G.D.C. and P.M., William Batchelor P.M., James Kirk P.M., William Davies P.M.; W. Emmett W.M.; S. Sykes S.W. and G. Wagstaff J.W. Bro. James Kirk announced that on Saturday, the 26th of June, he would lay the foundation stone of a Mechanics

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Institution, at Whaley Bridge, and he invited the whole of the brethren in the borough to breakfast at his residence, and to join in the procession. The invitation was gratefully accepted. The ballot was then taken for the admission of Mr. Wm. H. Halton, Editor of the *Ashton and Stalybridge Reporter*, and, being unanimous, that gentleman was duly initiated into Freemasonry, by Bros. Batchelor and Davies, in the usual form.

De Shurland Lodge, No. 1089, Sheerness.—On Wednesday evening the installation meeting of this Lodge was held at Sheerness, when Bro. A. Bourne was installed Worshipful Master by Bro. J. D. Macdonald, Past Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, Kent, in the presence of a full Lodge, containing several Provincial Grand Officers. The brethren subsequently banqueted together at the Fountain Hotel.

Perfect Ashlar Lodge, No. 1178.—A meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, the 3rd inst., at Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge. Present:—Bros. C. Deakin W.M., J. Rose S.W., J. A. Smith J.W., W. Batchelor S.D., W. T. Lever J.D., J. Stock D.C., F. Garbett I.G., F. Walters, P.G.P. Middlesex, P.M. Secretary; F. H. Hebsworth P.M. Treasurer; P.M.'s Bros. G. J. Grace and J. H. Harnsworth; Visitors Bros. S. Powneby S.D. 55, Hughes 1309. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. G. J. Grace P.M., by the courtesy of the W.M., raised Bro. T. Simpson to the third degree, and the W.M. passed Bros. Bell, Hughes 1309 and Sparks to the degree of Fellow Craft; initiated Messrs. Nice and Eastbrook. Bro. F. Walters P.M. then gave notice of motion, that the sum of five guineas be given from the funds of the Lodge to present the W.M., Bro. Deakin, on his retirement from office, with a Past Master's jewel for his efficient services during the year. Several proposals for initiation were given to the Secretary, and the Lodge was closed. A banquet followed, provided by Bro. Spencer. The usual toasts were given, and the brethren separated.

Neptune Lodge, No. 1264, Liverpool.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday afternoon, at the Masonic Hall, Hope Street, where there were was one of the largest gatherings of brethren seen at any Lodge for some time. The attendance numbered nearly 120, amongst those present being an unusually large array of W.M.'s, P.M.'s and officers from other Lodges in town, thus showing the popularity which the "Neptune" enjoys in the province. The retiring W.M., Bro. J. S. Dixon, occupied the chair at the commencement of the business; and after the usual opening some formal business was transacted. Bro. J. Healing P.M. Treasurer then took the chair, and proceeded to instal Bro. P. B. Gee as the W.M. of the Lodge for the ensuing year. This is the second time Bro. Gee has held that distinguished position, and his re-election to the office appeared to give the greatest satisfaction to the numerous brethren under his rule. The following were subsequently invested as officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. J. S. Dixon I.P.M., W. Roberts S.W., A. Cotter J.W., Jos. Healing P.M. Treasurer (re-elected), A. C. Wylie Secretary, W. Royle S.D., J. Korn J.D., J. C. Fish I.G., W. C. Webb, J. P. Gamble, J Caterall Stewards; A. Davies P.M. D.C., and W. H. Ball Tyler. Before the Lodge was closed a handsome P.M.'s jewel was presented to Bro. J. S. Dixon as a mark of sincere regard felt by the brethren for him "as a man and a Mason." The brethren afterwards sat down to banquet, after which the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and received in a hearty manner.

Star Lodge, No. 1275.—The regular meeting was held on 4th June, at the Ship Hotel, Greenwich. Present—Bros. J. Smith P.G.P. P.M. and Treasurer, who occupied the chair as W.M., J. J. Limburne S.W. and W.M. elect, J. Green J.W., Rev. G. P. R. Colls Chaplain and W.M. designate 1538, F. Walters P.G.P. Middlesex P.M. and Secretary, R. W. Williams S.D., E. W. Chetwynd as I.G., B. Woodman D.C., and Past Masters W. Cogh P.G.P.C., J. Hogg P.G.S., H. Keeble and above 40 brethren. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. J. T. C. Brooks and E. H. Rand were raised to the 3rd degree; and Bros. F. J. Lindsay and W. Carter 1309, were passed to the second degree. The election for the W.M., Treasurer and Tyler followed, and the following brethren were elected to fill respectively the foregoing offices, viz. Bro. J. J. Limburne W.M., J. Smith P.G. Treasurer, and Gilbert P.G.T. (Middlesex) Tyler. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren partook of a sumptuous banquet, under the able presidency of Bro. Smith, and enjoyed a very agreeable evening, where the usual loyal, Masonic and complimentary toasts were given and responded to, including that of the W.M., Wardens, Officers and Visitors. Bro. W. B. Woodman, who is a Steward for the Boys' School Festival, made a powerful appeal on behalf of that Charity, which was liberally responded to. The visitors were Bros. G. Kenning P.P.G.S.D. Middlesex, and P.M. 162, &c., W. J. Johns P.M. 131, C. Sergeant 177, H. Jager P.M. 453, W. H. Stacey 1237, W. Carter 1309. A. Betts 1309, &c. It was a source of deep regret to the brethren that, since the last meeting of the Lodge, they had to deplore the sad loss of two of their members, whom all respected—Bros. G. Pymm W.M. P.M. 749, and W. Bell I.G. who was shipwrecked off Bengal.

Hyde Park Lodge of Instruction, No. 1425.—Meeting held Monday, 7th June, at the Westbourne Restaurant, Craven Road, Bayswater. Present—Bros. Savage W.M., Side S.W., Scales J.W., Cole S.D., Gellion J.D., Stiles I.G., Read P.M. Secretary, and Bros. Death and Cuth. Lodge opened in first and second degrees. Bro. Death entrusted, &c., for raising. Lodge opened in third degree, and Bro. Death raised. The traditional history given in a very able manner by the W.M. Lodge resumed to first degree. First and second sections of first Lecture worked by the brethren, under direction of Bro. Read P.M.

Thames Valley Lodge, No. 1460.—The Rev. Dr. Brette of Christ's Hospital, and examiner to the University of London, presided at a meeting of this Lodge, held at the Ship Hotel, Halliford, on Saturday afternoon. The Lodge, of which the reverend Doctor is worshipful Master, after disposing of a large paper of business, and voting five guineas to the Masonic Girls' School, unanimously passed a resolution, recommending Mr. W. T. Howe, one of its members, to the Provincial Grand Master of Middlesex (Colonel Burdett) for the office of Provincial Grand Steward, in acknowledgment of his great services to the Lodge.

Metropolitan Lodge, No. 1507.—On Friday, the 4th inst., a committee of the members of this Lodge met at the Metropolitan Club, 269 Pentonville-road. Bros. Jas. Willing jun. W.M. in the chair. Bros. Kingham, Rapkin, Tims P.M., Side, Sainsbury, Williams J.W., Cook, Stiles, Michael S.W. being present. The object of the meeting was to make arrangements for the summer banquet, which resulted in the brethren fixing it to take place on Friday, the 9th July, at the Rye House, near Broxbourne. Dinner will take place at four o'clock, when ladies and non-Masons, friends of the brethren, will be present. The meeting was then adjourned to the 5th July, when final arrangements will be made.

Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, No. 1507.—Meeting at Metropolitan Club, King's Cross, on Friday, 4th June 1875. Bros. Willing W.M., Michael S.W., Williams J.W., Kingham S.D., Side J.D. Shand I.G., Adams P.G.P. Preceptor, Stiles Secretary, Tims P.M., and Bros. Scales, Cook, Sainsbury, Shankland, Cox, Rose, Read, Russe, Child, Jones, Tittenborn, and Gilbert. Lodge opened in due form, and minutes read and confirmed. Bro. Cook initiated, Bro. Read entrusted for passing. Lodge opened in second degree, Bro. Read passed, and Bro. Jones entrusted for raising. Lodge opened in third degree, and Bro. Jones raised. The W.M. called off for refreshment, and afterwards called on to labor, and closed down. The whole of the business most ably and creditably performed, and Bro. Michael S.W. elected unanimously W.M. at ensuing meeting.

The proceedings of the Gen. Gr. Chapter of the United States show that there are 37 Gr. Chapters, 2,014 R.A. Chapters and 123,779 R.A. Masons in the Union.—From a table recently published we find that there are 48 Gr. Lodges, 6,142 Lodges and 582,178 enrolled Master Masons in the United States.—The Gr. Lodge of Michigan has recently chosen the following officers for 1875: M.W. Bro. Geo. H. Durand, Flint, Gr. Master; R.W. Bro. M. H. Maynard, Marquette, Dep. Gr. Master; R.W. Bro. Wm. Dunham, Mainstee, Gr. Sen. Warden; R.W. Bro. J. W. Finch, Adrian, Gr. Jun. Warden; R.W. Bro. R. W. Landon, Niles, Gr. Treasurer; R.W. Bro. Foster Pratt, Kalamazoo, Gr. Secretary; R.W. Bro. A. M. Clark, Lexington Gr. Lecturer; R.W. Bro. J. S. Goodman, East Saginaw, Gr. Chaplain; R.W. Wm. Johnstone, Port Huron, Gr. Sen. Deacon; R.W. Bro. John P. Phillips, Woodland, Gr. Jun. Deacon, R.W Bro. F. A. Potter, St. Joseph, Gr. Marshal; R.W. Bro. Alex. McGregor, Detroit, Gr. Tyler..—*New York Courier.*

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Printed and Published for the Freemason's Chronicle Publishing Company Limited, by Brother WILLIAM WRAY MORGAN, at 67 Barbican, E.C., Saturday, 12th June 1875.

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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. I.—No. 25. SATURDAY, 19th JUNE 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE.
Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

FACT v. ASSERTION.

THE relations presently existing between our Order and the head of the Roman Catholic Church have been the subject of frequent comment in these columns. We have pointed out the folly of these attacks upon us by the Ultramontanes. To begin with the Bishop of Orlean's pamphlet, he denounced Freemasonry as a political body that was "eminently dangerous," "By its profound and unceasing political, social, and revolutionary action, it is a constant danger to society; it is the laboratory where revolution is prepared in the dark." And again, "It is the negation of all religion, and the enemy of all society." As one fact is worth a hundred assertions, we were content to point out that to the Order so terribly denounced belonged no less a personage that Marshal MacMahon, Duc de Magenta and President of the French Republic. The Order which included in its ranks the chief of the State in France could not accurately be described as the "enemy of all society" except on the assumption that such chief was one of a band of men who had sworn the destruction of society. Within a fortnight of our notice of this attack the Prince of Wales was formally installed R.W.G.M of the Order in England, and then in due time comes the counter blow to this demonstration of English Masonry in the shape of a letter from the Pope to the Bishop of Orleans, thanking him for his pamphlet, and asserting that "the nefarious character of the sect being known, there is no honest man who must not turn from it with horror." Thus much is mere recapitulation of what has appeared previously in our pages, and with every confidence we leave it to the judgment of our readers to decide whether these arrogant assertions of the Pope and his Bishop are or are not the "baseless fabric of a vision." We imagine the facts of the case are with us, the allegations on the side of our antagonists. But it is possible, we think, to go a step further, and to prove, not by assertions merely, but by facts, that the Papacy, from a political point of view, has invariably been "the negation of all religion," except that which itself professed, and the "enemy of all society" whenever it suited its own purposes. Of course, on this, as on all previous occasions, we shall scrupulously avoid saying a single word that could cause offence to those members of our society who profess the Roman Catholic faith. What we advance will rest on a tolerably solid substratum of truth. For the few illustrations of our statements we shall give chapter and verse, so that our readers will be at no loss to judge of our accuracy.

The political history of the Papacy is one uninterrupted series of meddling with the peace and quietness of society all over the world, sometimes nominally in the interests of religion, at other times to assert its supremacy as a sovereign power. Being more remote from Rome than most other Christian countries, England has escaped the damaging influence of Papal interference to a greater extent than most European countries. Yet the meddlesome interference of the priesthood in our government has more than once been productive of serious harm to the reign of law and order. A few of the most prominent cases with which our readers are familiar will suffice to prove this. Thus, in the reign of the first Plantaganet, a monarch of considerable learning, and of transcendent abilities as a ruler, no sooner had he raised A'Becket, his Chancellor, to the Archdiocese of Canterbury, than the arrogant claims of the churchman induced in the country a number of civil broils. The moment he ascended the throne Henry resolved to curtail the pretensions of the priesthood to the exercise of temporal power within his realm. His selection of Becket as a fit instrument to carry out this project turned out to be a great blunder. But though the object of the king was a patriotic one, Becket preferred exciting discontent in his native country to exercising the more appropriate functions of a minister. Instead of promoting enthusiasm for the cause of religion and order, he set himself to thwarting, as far as he could, the plans of his lawful sovereign. True, in the first instance, he accepted the Constitutions of Clarendon, which defined the limits of clerical influence; but when the Pope rejected these constitutions, Becket contrived to evade his oath, and the result was years of political trouble in a country that would otherwise, as regards this single question, have enjoyed years of uninterrupted peace. Again, John is a monarch whose memory is not held in much esteem among Englishmen. We regard him mostly as the tyrant from whom the Associated Barons and Stephen Langton, Archbishop of Canterbury, extorted the earliest charter of our liberties. We despise him, too, for the weak surrender of his sovereign rights to Pope Innocent III. But here, again, is an instance in which the church first fanned the flames of discontent between the king and his barons, to the end that its influence in the country might become more powerful. John's reign was tyrannical throughout. He acted chiefly on violent and brutal impulses, but while we read with shame of the bullying and cowardice of this Anglo-Norman king, we cannot shut our eyes to the active participation of the church in all the commotions of the time. And, tyrant or no tyrant, Rome cared but little about the rights of the barons when it had secured its own. The lines of Shakspeare never fail to excite the patriotism of Englishmen.

> "That no Italian priest
> Shall tithe or toll in our dominions;
> But, as we under heaven are supreme head,
> So, under Him, that great supremacy,
> Where we do reign, we will alone uphold,
> Without the assistance of a mortal hand:
> So tell the Pope; all reverence set apart
> To him, and his usurp'd authority."

It was this same Pope Innocent who preached a crusade against the Albigenses, a harmless, inoffensive people, whose only sin was that they rejected the claims of the Papal clergy over them. This people were extirpated. They were called heretics because they differed in some particulars from the Church of Rome. Hence their destruction. In the weak reign of Henry VI., Cardinal Beaufort scrupled not to exercise influence as a churchman in the cause of civil strife. We fully recognise that the struggle between the Cardinal and Humphrey of Gloucester was a political one, yet the influence of the Church was used, not to allay strife, but to promote it. Again, an attempt of the Spaniards under Philip II. to force the Inquisition on the Netherlanders, the persecution of the Huguenots, the action of the Romish Church during the Thirty Years' War. All these are so many more evidences that Rome stood at nothing when a question arose whether she or the sovereign power in other countries should prevail. Even now, when the Pope has been despoiled of all his temporalities, his Vatican decrees, if, or whereever enforced, would deprive every one of civil freedom. These things, as we have said already, are not assertions. Every student of history is aware of their occurrence. Different writers may have placed each a different complexion on the several events we have alluded to, but from whatever standpoint we regard them, the fact of their occurrence remains. We may endorse the views of those who assert the power of Rome, or of those who deny it. It is indubitable that the

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Romish Church has interfered, and does interfere, in matters civil. It interferes openly when openness is the more politic course to pursue, but also secretly when secrecy is desirable. Now Masonry, against which so many denunciations have been levelled, enjoins in all countries respect for constituted authority. Just as it requires in all its disciples the profession of a religious faith, yet leaves the nature of that faith to individual preference, so it insists that all Masons, in whatever country living, shall obey the law. It is openly proclaimed in our Constitutions that a Mason must be, firstly, a religious man, and, secondly, a good citizen. The very essence of Masonry is that its professors shall believe in God and respect the "Civil authority," whether such authority take the form of an autocracy, as in Russia, of a constitutional monarchy, as in England, or of a republic, as in the United States. It is one thing to wish that all the world should be of one mind politically and religiously, but the degree of respect we claim for our own views must, in fairness, be conceded to others. Masons recognise the justice of this view, but political Rome does not. *Et voilà tout.*

MASONRY AND CITIZENSHIP.

IT has been well said, by a thoughtful writer, that some of the noblest impulses of our nature may be inspired by seemingly inadequate motive forces. The soldier will die for the honour of the two figures which indicate the number of his regiment; a fanatic will submit to persecution, and even martyrdom, for the sake of some half-truth which has vividly impressed his imagination; and even the Atheist, whose godless creed, like the icy temperature of the Arctic circle seems utterly unfavourable to the growth of the nobler passions, will sometimes astonish us by the dignity and the persistence with which he presses upon our notice his poor schemes for the regeneration of mankind. He who has a noble creed, and is impressed with deep convictions, has small excuse for the display of the selfish side of humanity. The world is not yet so far advanced, either in civilisation or refinement, that it can afford to permit any member of the human family to play the part of the Lotos Eater. While wrong, injustice, and poverty remain in our midst, we, who care for the future of humanity, are morally constrained to do our best to advance the great interests of our race. The mere duties of citizenship, for example, entail much more onerous responsibilities than most of us imagine. Society has moral as well as legal claims upon the individual, and he who merely pays his poor rate, or serves on a jury, can scarcely claim to have fulfilled all the obligations of social life. He is compelled to contribute in the one case, and to give his time to the consideration of questions of fact in the other, and no well-regulated mind will for a moment think that with the due performance of functions such as these the duty of the citizen is at an end. Religion, in many cases, supplies the motive force which compels attention to the higher moral obligations of life. But this great force, immensely valuable as it is when well regulated, is often marred and narrowed by the poor dogmas of contending sectaries. The Christian citizen of the world, whose feeling of brotherhood embraces all mankind, is no doubt a very agreeable person, but not unfrequently he permits his noble creed to remain a mere theory. Brotherhood, in its true sense, is often with him indissolubly united with the church, and although he persuades himself that he cares as much for a Theist or a Bhuddist as he does for the members of his own communion, in practice his brotherly feelings are sadly hampered by his prejudices. The mystic tie, which binds Masons together in fraternal bonds, knows no such limits as these. The Mason is not merely a brother to all those, of whatever creed or colour, who have passed the portals of the Masonic Temple, but the ethics of the Craft teach him a morality which for breadth and grandeur cannot be surpassed by any system of merely human origin. He is a citizen of the world by virtue of his "calling and election," if we may venture for once to give a secular meaning to the technical language of Theology. He is a good subject of the State, a good neighbour, and a good husband and father. He learns to understand something of the complicated nature of human associations, and, while clinging with tenacity to the doctrine of self-help, he is yet alive to the divine grandeur of the morality which teaches us to help each other. Charity, happily, is in some measure a noble contagion. Many a man who has lived wholly for himself, who has gloried in the character of the Sybarite, has felt the emotions of pity and mercy awakened powerfully within him by the example and teaching of his Lodge. He enters a new world, and learns, for the first time perhaps, that "it is more blessed to give than to receive." He realises that thousands of helpless creatures are dependent upon the charity of their fellow mortals for bread, and the divine sentiment of pity, newly awakened in his breast, makes him a practical follower of Him who made mercy the corner stone of religion.

But it is not alone as a dispenser of charity that the citizenship of a Mason receives its fullest development. We do not forget that to give with discrimination requires wisdom; that relief, to be effectual, must never degrade or pauperise the recipient. A man may fling his gold broadcast, and do harm; indiscriminate almsgiving has, ere now, had the effect of pauperising whole communities, and it is at least satisfactory to know that Masonic charity, given, as it is, with caution and discretion, has never yet brought evil in its train. It, however, requires little or no worldly wisdom to perform those citizen duties aright which lie at the base of society. The good Mason is pre-eminently a truthful man. The rigid lessons of the Lodge, which are illustrated by the noblest symbolism derived from the study of scientific truth, are for ever before his eyes. The mathematician is not necessarily a moral man, but he who has learned to illustrate moral truth by its scientific equivalents, derived from a study of material verities, is apt to realise vividly the enormous practical value of integrity. The teaching of moral and religious truths by the aid of symbols has never been entirely abandoned by Christians, and in that great branch of the Church which is so bitterly opposed to Masonry and its claims symbolic illustration has been carried to an extreme point. As Masons, we realise the wondrous bearing of constructive truth upon the moral world. The Arch, the Circle and the Square suggest ideas which rarely occur to a mind untrained in the principles of the Craft; and our great progenitors so fully understood the symbolism of Masonry that they have made the Gothic cathedrals, which were erected by their hands, teachers for all time of the noblest ideas to those who understand the language in which these stone sermons are written. The Divine Architect has conspicuously marked his handiwork with the proofs of his own integrity. Whatever we may say of the "unstable" winds, the meteorologist knows that the currents of the air obey the most exact and unerring laws. Human skill and science have been exhausted in the effort to make the chronometer afford some truthful approximation of the flight of time. At best it is an imperfect instrument, and is useless to the mariner until it has been rated, and its errors calculated; but who ever knew any one of the vast orbs which roll in the immensity of space to be one instant behind its time? The astronomer knows that he has but to direct his telescope to the proper quarter of the heavens to find a planet whose orbit is too vast for the human intellect to grasp. It had reached that portion of its vast circuit in regular periodic time, ages before man appeared on the globe, and it will probably keep its allotted course, with the same unerring regularity, when life has ceased to exist on this tiny sphere. To a Mason, these sublime facts of physical science are deeply impressive. He does not forget that truth is the sum of the complex laws which bind the universe into one harmonious whole, nor does he fail to remember that physical truth is allied to the moral forces which unite mankind in one great fraternity. The law of mind is, indeed, from its very nature, more difficult to comprehend than any of the great physical truths which attract the intellect of man. But if we cannot track or circumscribe the limits of thought, if the moral world be in itself too vast to grasp as a whole, we do not forget that the practical duties of life are clearly defined to all who care to observe them.

THE ESSENES OR ESSENIANS.

(From the French of J. L. Laurens.)

WHEN the Jews, after having been supreme in Asia, became scattered in all parts of the world, and this people, once so marvellous, had again fallen into its former

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state of servitude, the religion of Moses daily lost its most salient characteristics, and presented only the sad picture of a tree once vigorous, which, having exhausted all its strength, gave no further evidence of life than in certain isolated branches ready at any moment to detach themselves from the trunk. It was divided into three principal factions, which for a long time desolated the people of Israel, and which, in the very bosom of that ancient and respectable religion, gave rise to an infinite number of sects, which corrupted the pure and sublime morality that Moses had derived from the priests of ancient Egypt, and which he had turned to admirable account in converting a superstitious people, born in slavery, into the holiest and most intrepid of nations.

Then came those monstrous superstitions, those gross practices, those harsh tenets, which usurped the place of that holy morality, that respectable religion, which so marvellously distinguished that famous people. Exaggerated interpretations, inane ideas, had converted tradition into a silly, incoherent, strange fable, and had so disfigured the ancient creed that the Jews of Jerusalem would have experienced some difficulty in recognising the Jews of Egypt. One party brought forward charges of unbelief, while another had recourse to persecution, and regarded their own people as their most implacable enemies. The Sadducees, rejecting all tradition, looked only to the written law. The Pharisees, on the other hand, ingrafted on the fundamental traditions and written exposition of the faith new dogmas and rites, which Moses had not laid down in writing, and which they pretended had been revealed to him afterwards, and as a supplement to the Law which God had established on Mount Sinai. The Samaritans combined the teaching of the Pentateuch with the philosophy of the Chaldeans, and deluded the people by the illusions of magic. These factions regarded each other with scorn, and felt towards each other that hatred which usually animates sections belonging to the same creed. The majority, wandering from one country to another, mingled with their faith the superstitions of the people they travelled amongst, and nearly all, excited by fanaticism and eager for innovation, altered and deteriorated the holy writings, and forced on their own interpretation, calculated to develope new systems.

Such was the state of Jewry when Alexander had conquered Asia. In the general confusion of religious and moral views, a corruption of morals, and the hatreds and other strong passions which accompany the frenzy of new systems, had divided families, and promoted tumultuous factions, as well as all those disorders to which private interests, directed by enthusiasm and favoured by fanaticism, ordinarily give rise. Some laid up in their hearts the pernicious germ of vengeance, others, induced by that restlessness of mind which torments the ambitious man, endeavoured to excite troubles. Everywhere individual interest or hatred gave rise to terrible disorders.

In the midst of this universal hubbub the advantages of peace made themselves felt. The love of virtue awakened a desire to cultivate it in peace, and retirement seemed, to all honest people, preferable to that stormy life, so hostile to repose, and which was always requiring a continual and ill-directed activity.

Soon the world saw whole families isolate themselves, and withdraw into desert places, there to pass a life of retirement and peace. Many followed this example, and everywhere throughout Egypt there sprang into existence societies, or Lodges, of virtuous people, whom History designates as Essenians. Greeks, Jews, Egyptians—in short, people of every nation joined these bodies. Essenian Societies already multiplied everywhere. General esteem followed close upon their heels, and their progress was rapid.

Under the tyrannical and bloody reign of Physcon, the seventh successor of Ptolemy Lagus, Egyptian and foreign families, deprived of their fortunes, and often obliged to flee for their lives, spread themselves throughout the last and only safe asylum in the deserts, where they formed themselves into bodies, and, far removed from tyrants, sought that peace and security which they could not find in the midst of cities, which had become the scene of a debasing slavery and of all kinds of corruption.

When Syria, still stained with blood, and overborne by that carnage which followed the death of Alexander, and torn by partial dissensions, had become the prey of tyrants and barbarians, the wisest citizens abandoned the theatre of ambitious strife, and sought in the system of the Essenians for peace and tranquillity.

Egypt, after having astonished the universe by its renown, "having become the centre of anarchy during the civil wars which darkened" the ages of the later Ptolemies, having been subjugated, invaded by the Romans, and laid waste by an unscrupulous and insolent soldiery, saw grow up in its midst those peaceful and victorious societies which counted already amongst its members such grand philosophers of old as Democritus, Anaxagoras, and others, men who imported into Greece the consolation of virtue.

All these different people, influenced by the same motive, associated by the same spirit, at first scattered without any intercommunication, were soon brought into the closest relations by the bonds of intercourse and friendly communication; the uniformity of tastes and ideas only helped to make them more sensible of the advantage of accord in their political and religious system. Men praiseworthy for their virtues, their zeal, and their knowledge, were chosen to direct them, and it was in the district of Alexandria, in the very neighbourhood of Lake Moeris, that were established those famous communities of Essenians, which were, as it were, the capitals or centres of other societies spread over different parts of the east, of Asia, and of Africa. It was from these central points that the Essenian sodalities received the instructions that were necessary to their discipline, their happiness, and even to their existence. It was in these nurseries, so to speak, that were trained and educated those of the Essenians whom their different Lodges destined for their domestic rule.

There a pure and serene sky, a soft and temperate climate, invited them to the study of nature and the contemplation of its wonders. A fertile and joyous country, prodigal of the gifts of Ceres and Pomona, repaid with interest the fatigues of the happy peaceful labourer. Medicinal herbs mingled their beneficent stalks with the gifts of Flora, and from that happy river sprung health and happiness in these delightful regions. Streamlets, shaded by the linden and the palm, meandered gently, with a soft murmur, and spread everywhere the precious seeds of fertility. Nature seemed to have exhausted all its benefits, and been prodigal of all its charms, in order to render these regions worthy to become the asylum of virtue.

On the other hand the Essenians well deserved to inhabit this enchanted country, for their system, true picture of the early ages of the world, recalled to earth that blessed epoch which closed with the innocence of man, that golden age which poets have invented in order to celebrate virtue, and which the custom of our day has relegated to the fictions of mythology. A life of labour spent in common, the spirit of brotherhood, that happy simplicity which diminishes the work of man the more, the closer it brings together man and his true destiny, and, above all, that love of peace which looks on war as a crime, that universal philanthropy which insists in regarding tolerance, charity, and beneficence as duties, all these attributes made these new societies thoroughly one and the same family, devoted to the common weal. If wealth were not their lot, poverty, that terrible plague of humanity, never came to trouble their happiness or mar their innocent pleasures. Men who had voluntarily withdrawn themselves from riches could not be otherwise than moderate; thrift and self denial as regarded all that was superfluous, which are the incorruptible safeguards of happiness, never ceased warding off those factitious wants which are born of luxury and indolence.

It was in this happy land and this splendid school of virtue that the chiefs of the Essenian societies trained themselves. It was from this centre, in which dwelt happiness and innocence, that went forth those mild laws which should serve them as their guide, and conduct them to and keep them in the paths of happiness and peace.

The religion and morality of the Essenians were as pure as their manners. They professed the Jewish religion, but stripped of all those superstitions and sophisms with which the Pharisees, the Sadducees, and the Samaritans had overlaid it. Here is an analysis of their faith and their morality.

1. They honoured Moses as a legislator inspired of God, and in spite of the extreme gentleness of their manners generally, they condemned to death all those among them who spake ill of him. At the same time looking upon this condemnation merely as an indispensible precaution against blasphemy, they confined themselves to depriving the guilty of life, without subjecting him to the agonies of that torture which they deemed criminal and useless.

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2. They followed the system of Zeno as to the immortality and spirituality of the soul. According to Philo and Josephus, they looked upon the most subtle part of the ether as the substance of the soul. They held that that part of the ether which was attracted into matter by the secret operations of nature was then enclosed as in a prison; and that the dissolution of the constituent atoms which formed such prison, setting free that portion of the ether which was the soul, it returned to heaven and rejoiced in its innocent liberty once more.

3. The moral code of the Essenians was that of the Stoics. They believed that everything which gratified the senses and gave full scope to the passions was a restraint on the soul, causing it to suffer, and increasing its servile condition. Moreover the Essenians of Palestine recognised the doctrine of rewards for the good and punishments for the evil. After the dissolution of the body, the soul resuming its original nature, those of good people would necessarily betake themselves to heaven, the abode of happiness, where was neither rain nor snow, nor excessive heat, while those of the wicked would be hurled into a dark abyss, exposed to all the hardships of eternal winters, to all its inconveniences, and to troubles never compensated by a single interval of pleasure. This view became afterwards general, and was adopted by all the sections of the Essenians.

4. Besides morality, the Essenes studied the science of medicine, and especially the investigation of such remedies as would tend to soothe the effervescence of the blood, for this they looked upon as an obstacle to perfection. Such inquiries led them, doubtless, to make some grand discoveries, for, according to M. Pluquet, they had discovered plants and stones which possessed certain rare properties.

5. They divided the Holy Scriptures into two parts: the body and the spirit. The former was the literal signification; the latter the soul, the life; in fact, the truth, hidden beneath the envelope of the former. Philo represents them as philosophers, and he states that they possessed writings of their ancient leaders which were monuments of their allegorical knowledge. * * * * * *

It seems certain, from our knowledge of the Egyptian priests and the Essenes, that the latter were only the continuators of that ancient caste which dispersed itself at the period of those troubles and dissensions which turned Egypt into one scene of anarchy, of which the Romans profited so far as to convert it into one of their provinces. It is reasonable to conclude that the founders of the Essenian societies were Egyptian priests. What proves this very clearly is that, on the one hand, we know not what became of these after the overthrow of the throne of Ptolemies and the invasion of the country, while, on the other hand, the societies of the Essenians which appeared at that time present almost the same character as did the priestly caste of Egypt. Indeed, we find among the Essenians the mysterious initiation, the oath of prudence, and the evidences of the Egyptian priests, the same love of the sciences, the same philosophy; everything, in fact, establishes a perfect resemblance.

We may thus affirm, from proofs so intimate, that the confederacy of philosophers, known by the name of initiates or priests of ancient Egypt, reappeared and continued its system in the societies of the Essenes after those later wanderings which followed its dissolution and the dispersion of its members. According to this view, which is but the result of those which naturally arise in pondering over the history of ancient Egypt, of its priestly caste, and of the Essenes, we can only come to a conclusion favourable to the view we have just expressed.

AN EMERGENT MASON.

SOME years ago, no matter how many, I was a resident in one of the little mining towns of California. One day there appeared among us a young man, whose flushed cheek and nervous movements told the experienced eye that he had come too late in search of health. Deeply cultured, skilled in the arts and sciences, and master of literature, he was yet without business education, and had no longer the physical strength for manual labour. In that community there was nothing to do whereby he could earn his bread. Wearily and more wearily he walked the streets for a few days, and then failed to re-appear. I divined the cause, and went myself in search of him. In a narrow, dark, and gloomy garret, where his necessities had compelled him to retire, I found him, too weak already to wait upon himself, but watching with patient serenity for the outgoing of the tide, which was ebbing now with terrible and accelerating speed. At first he was reticent and distrustful. But a few moments satisfied him that something better than curiosity merely had brought me there, and then he told the story of his life. It was the tale you have often heard before, of a widowed mother and an only son, of days of toil and nights of study, of struggle with poverty and broken health, and how at last, with little left of strength or endurance, but rich in manly resolution, he had come out here in the double hope of regaining health and rearing a happier home for the mother who had borne and tended him. And then for the first time, and with evident reluctance, as if he feared I would regard the disclosure as setting up some claim upon my purse, he told me that on the eve of his departure from the East he had been made a Mason. I suppose," he said, "that I am what you call an emergent Mason. But I don't know as I ought to be blamed much for it. I always wanted to be a Mason. But I was never able until that night. I shouldn't have been able then, but a friend gave me the money. I wonder," he added inquiringly, after a pause, "if I can be buried by the Masons?"

By this time I was too full of something besides censure to think that the boy could be blamed for anything; and I presume I told him so.

But be that as it may, there was a hasty change in that apartment. We did not leave him long with his cheerless and uncomfortable surroundings. Gently and tenderly as ever young mother lifted and pressed her first-born to her heart, we lifted him up and bore him away from the gloom and desolation of his garret. The hand of death was indeed already upon him, and we could not unloose its inexorable grip. But we could at least cheer and solace his descent to the tomb. We could open the shutters and let God's genial sunshine in to gild with mellow radiance his few remaining days. We could stand by his bedside and anticipate and minister to every want. We could receive his benedictions and his thanks, and that last look of ineffable gratitude, which transformed his face to heavenly beauty, when his lips could no longer utter what was in his heart.

And when the struggle was over, with reverent steps and slow, we bore the stranger Brother away to his resting-place, and dropped upon his coffin with fraternal regard the grateful evergreen—emblem of eternal life and love.

And then it seemed to me that I too was translated. I seemed to stand for a moment far away across the continent. Adown the sloping mead I saw the humble home he had described to me, and by its porch at eventide the aged mother gazing towards the setting sun, where faint and fainter fell his last receding steps, as if she deemed the very longing of her heart might call her boy back again! And I said, "Strengthen thy heart now, O bereaved and desolate one! Thy boy indeed is dead. But though a stranger in that distant land, he found kind friends, whose hearts were faithful to him as a mother's!"

How many times the sun has risen and set since then? The days have gathered into months, and months have ripened into nearly a score of years! But morn and evening still, on bended knee, one grateful heart sends up the fervent prayer, "Bless, O God! bless that noble Brotherhood!"

My brethren, I never rose to respond on an occasion like this that I did not feel compelled to apologize for the seriousness which is sure to pervade my utterances. But after all, it is just such experiences as I have related which, above all earthly things, endear our Masonry to our hearts; and perhaps there is no harm in tempering your festivities with something of time and toil in your service. It is because of just such experiences that there has been no weariness and no surfeiting in those labours; and it is from just such experiences that Freemasonry takes deeper hold of me each day of my life, and that in my heart I kneel at its altars now with the devotion of an Eastern idolater!

You, my Brethren of California Lodge, are here to-night to commemorate a quarter of a century of existence. Twenty-five years is a large proportion of the span allotted to you as individuals. But in the life of a society which is destined to be perpetual, it is nothing, yet when you reflect that in every day and every hour of those years, you have healed the wounds, dried up the tears, and banished the afflictions of some unfortunate Brother—in that reflection you find abundant reason for the joy and pride you experience on this anniversary. You can have no nobler ambition than the ambition to *deserve* in the future the reputation which you have enjoyed in the past!

Our ancient Craft! Mr. President, I give you back the noble sentiment with which you saluted me. "May its noble principles be preserved unimpaired until the last syllable of recorded time."

Child of the gods—eternal spirit—thou radiant orb in virtue's constellation—shine on, shine on in beauty ever!—*P.G.M. Pratt, of California.*

We teach men to think of God. Who can think of God without thinking of himself as one of the humblest of his creatures, totally dependent upon Him, and without His protection and aid totally unfit for the society of the wise and the good? We do not tolerate presumption or blasphemy against the God that made us. We esteem Him as the chief good, and every one who enters our mystic temple is carefully instructed in his duty to God, as well as to his neighbour and himself. We undertake to rely on divine revelation as our guide, consequently no atheist can be made a Mason. If we discharge our duty to the Institution, and are true to ourselves, no irreligious libertine can gain admittance. The foundations, then, of the Masonic Order, are laid broad and deep. If the Brotherhood are true to themselves, no shocks of political changes or fanaticism of any sort can destroy it. Temples reared with hands may be razed to the ground by the rude shocks of war, and by barbarous force; but the progress of our mystic temple is onward and upward, and millions yet unborn are to be blessed by its benign teachings.—*Masonic Jewel.*

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CORRESPONDENCE.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.

AN OLIVER SCHOLARSHIP.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR,—Being the projector of the scheme to obtain a scholarship at one of our Universities for one of our ablest boys at the Masonic Institution, I may be excused, I hope, for addressing, through your columns, my Masonic brethren throughout England and Wales, and even throughout the Universe, as I strongly desire the memory and name of the lamented and learned Doctor Oliver, of Lincolnshire, to be connected therewith.

At a committee meeting of the Lincolnshire Grand Lodge, held at Grantham, in the month of May 1874, I first mooted the question. Some brethren then expressed an opinion that such a scheme, as that which I propounded, if carried into execution, might take a poor lad out of his sphere, as if goodness, learning and talent, were necessarily confined to any one class of society. Such, I believe, was not the late Dr. Oliver's opinion.

When about to appeal to our late Grand Master on this interesting subject, I was deterred by his lamented secession from our Fraternity. The question has again been raised, at our Lincolnshire Grand Lodge, held at Boston, this year.

The sum of nearly £200 seems to have been raised to the memory of the late Doctor Oliver, who accomplished so much for Universal Masonry by his energies and pen; but after forty years' experience, however elastic the voluntary principle may be, I have not found that money easily flows into any exchequer, without a specific object, a strenuous endeavour, and a wise organization.

Now, without determining the appropriation, the Grand Lodge of Lincolnshire has now voted £200 to the Oliver Memorial, making the sum of £400. In my judgment, the suggestion to confer small annuities out of this limited capital, which at 5 per cent. would not exceed £20 annually, would be chimerical in its effects, as to any real benefit; and, further, such insignificant doles, from the Province of Lincoln alone, would be unworthy of the name, pen, and zeal of so distinguished a Mason as the late Dr. Oliver.

That eminent member of the Theological faculty lived in days when Masonic proceedings were under a clerical ban; when no high preferment was accorded to him for his self-denying and unremitting labours: nevertheless, he was content to work for Masonry under the *shade* of a cathedral, with a contemptible pittance, as a remuneration for his multifarious labours, simply, because he did not bask under episcopal smiles.

Yet, he did his work for Masonry, throughout the world; and what more *appropriate* memento to his undying fame can there be, than a scholarship for a talented boy, a poor Mason's son, maybe an orphan, to one of our English Universities, to evince to mankind that Masonry has something to do with literature, as well as with good cheer; and that our avowed charity leads us, as in days of yore, to provide for the lambs of the Fraternity, so that where goodness and mental parts, with diligence and perseverance, are found to be the distinguishing traits of a poor, forlorn lad, mental culture shall be secured for him to bless and improve society.

A lad that can earn one scholarship, may earn one or two others. He may try. Surely, many of our Masonic brethren belong to that "Try Company" whose motto is Nil Desperandum. Six hundred subscriptions of one sovereign each, from Masons in England and Wales, would accomplish this benevolent project. Yes, double that sum could be raised, and that quickly, for the scholarship. Up and doing, my brother Masons. And I am confident that if brother Binckes, with his analytical skill, his comprehensive views, his descriptive and suggestive powers of organisation, would give momentum to the project, the thing is done. Meanwhile, my pen and my time, so far as I can command it, shall be at the service of the project, with a view to help those who may be able to help themselves and others, a project which, whilst it would perpetuate *in literature* the memory of the late Dr. Oliver, would tend to expand the mind of a Masonic stripling, and adorn Masonry with one of the brightest gems of Masonic charity.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,

DANIEL ACE, D.D.

P.P.G. Chaplain for Lincolnshire.

Laughton Vicarage, near Gainsborough.

[With reference to the remarks of our correspondent, we beg to state that an editorial on the subject of the late Dr. Oliver's contributions to Masonic literature will appear in our next issue.—EDITOR FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.]

OUR FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

10 Guilford Place, W.C., 14th June 1875

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—My time and your space will not permit of "telling all about the antiquities which show acquaintance with our Freemasonry." Bro. Buchan is doubtless familiar with my authorities, and his demand is a quibble upon the question of what is our Freemasonry. If he can admit it to be a system of morality veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols—then the allegory and symbols in the possession of ancient Craftsmen, are proof of the antiquity of the system. But if he require a series of public records which lay bare the allegory and expound the symbols, I must demur to his logic, whilst I venerate his "bumps."

The Pope's assertion, in 1738, that the Society had been recently formed, seems to me, an inimical rejoinder to Dr. Anderson, who, in 1723, called it *most ancient*.

Yours fraternally,

WALTER SPENCER.

REVIEWS.

All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, 67 Barbican, E.C.

Lives of the Engineers. The Steam Engine. Boulton and Watt. By Samuel Smiles, author of "Character," "Self Help," &c. A new and revised edition. London: John Murray, Albemarle Street, 1874.

SECOND NOTICE.

IT is out of the question, of course, to notice the career of Watt in all its details, but we can note certain of the most prominent points, of which the most important is the discovery with which the world will ever associate his name. A long and interesting chapter on steam serves as an introduction to the account of Watt's study of the subject and its results. Suffice it, that as regards the then knowledge of steam as a motive power, Newcomen's engine was the most advanced illustration. Of this engine, the University of Glasgow possessed a model, which had been sent to London for repairs. This having arrived in due time, was placed, by Dr. Anderson, in Watt's hands, and forthwith he set to work to ascertain its value, and whether it was an invention that might be turned to any beneficial account. By the aid of all the books which he could lay his hands on in which steam was dealt with, and by constant study of the engine model, Watt at length, by slow degrees, arrived at the conclusion that what was needed to make the steam engine of universal use was a separate condenser. This, as Watt himself said, may appear no such wonderful invention after all, but it generally happens that the greatest discoveries are arrived at by sometimes the simplest process. How the great light suddenly dawned upon his mind is best told in his own words to Mr. Robert Hart, which the author has introduced, and which tell the tale far better than the most elaborate description.

"I had gone to take a walk on a fine Sabbath afternoon. I had entered the Green by the gate at the foot of Charlotte Street, and had passed the old washing house. I was thinking upon the engine at the time, and had gone as far as the herd's house, when the idea came into my mind that as steam was an elastic body it would rush into a vacuum, and if a communication were made between the cylinder and an exhausted vessel, it would rush into it, and might be there condensed without cooling the cylinder. I then saw that I must get rid of the condensed steam and injection-water if I used a jet, as in Newcomen's engine. Two ways of doing this occurred to me. First, the water might be run off by a descending pipe, if an off-let could be got at the depth of 35 or 36 feet, and any air might be extracted by a small pump. The second was to make the pump large enough to extract both water and air." He continued: "I had not walked further than the Golf-house when the whole thing was arranged in my mind."

Steadily after this Watt devoted all his energies to the solution of the problem he had set himself to solve. The day following his great discovery he "was up betimes, making arrangements for a speedy trial of his new plan." With the body of a syringe for a cylinder, an improvised cistern as his first condenser, and various other makeshifts, he set to work, and the result proved the correctness of the idea. But here, again, we cannot do better than give Watt's *ipsissima verba*.

"'The steam pipe,' says Watt, 'was adjusted to a small boiler. When steam was produced, it was admitted into the cylinder, and soon issued through the perforation of the rod and at the valve of the condenser; when it was judged that the air was expelled, the steam-cock was shut, and the air-pump piston-rod was drawn up, which leaving the small pipes of the condenser in a state of vacuum, the steam entered them and was condensed. The piston of the cylinder immediately rose and lifted a weight of about 18 pounds, which was hung to the lower end of the piston-rod. The exhaustion-cock was shut, the steam was re-admitted into the cylinder, and the operation was repeated. The quantity of steam consumed and the weights it could raise were observed, and, accepting the non-application of the steam-case and external covering, the invention was complete, in so far as regarded the savings of steam and fuel."

Thus the invention was complete, but it took Watt many years to bring it to perfection in all its details. However, these were accomplished, and the next step was to construct a model engine. "For this purpose he hired an old cellar." But the execution of his plans proved more difficult than its preparation. Even the fertility of his invention proved an obstacle to progress. Expedients of all sorts were ever and anon suggesting themselves, some of them proving fruitless, while all of them caused delay. Another chief difficulty was the obtaining competent workmen; hence the first model proved only partially successful, but sufficiently so "to place the advantages of the invention beyond the reach of doubt." Resolved to pursue the discovery, Watt went on toiling at his model, but other difficulties beset him, notably that most trying of all, the want of means. His friend, Dr. Black, occasionally lent him sums of money to enable him to prosecute his various experiments to an issue. But better still, knowing that Watt, in order to be successful, must find some person of means and enterprise who would be willing to become associated with him, Dr. Black accordingly introduced him to his friend, Dr. Roebuck, the founder of the Carron Ironworks, an enterprising man, of undaunted spirit, not scared by difficulties, nor a niggard of expense, when he saw before him any reasonable prospect of advantage." Into the history of this connection we have not space to enter. Dr. Roebuck at once recognised the value of the invention, and, in course of time, a partnership was arranged between them, a model engine was set up at Kinneil House, the residence of Dr. Roebuck, and a patent taken out in 1769. But Dr. Roebuck became embarrassed in his circumstances, and his share of the partnership was ultimately taken by Matthew Boulton, as a set off to a debt of £1,200. Henceforth great as were the difficulties which still remained to be overcome, the progress of the invention was a series of uninterrupted successes. Boulton's business was rendered far

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more prosperous by the employment of steam power in its various branches. This, indeed, it was that had drawn his attention to Watt's model. Gradually the engine came to be employed in Cornwall in draining the mines, and there it proved a signal success, soon supplanting the Newcomen engines. But we need hardly pursue the firm further. Their slow but sure progress towards fame, in the face of all obstacles, is matter of history. We must, however, add a few words as to Watt's great partner, Matthew Boulton. He was born of good family, and married into a good family, his wife bringing him a handsome fortune, so that, on the death of his father, had he been so minded, Boulton might have retired from business altogether. Instead of this, he determined to engage in it still more extensively. He erected new premises at Soho, and had already obtained a high reputation in his trade when his attention was drawn to Watt's invention. Boulton was a man of never-failing energy and of a most genial disposition, while his partner, Watt, owing no doubt to weakness of health in his earliest years, was querulous. The two, however, got on well together. An Act of Parliament was obtained, granting an extension of the patent rights to their engine, so that they might have a chance of reaping some pecuniary reward for all their toil and risk. Their sons were introduced into the business, and gradually they withdrew themselves from action, and at length, full of years and honours, they died, Boulton in 1809, and Watt ten years later, in 1819.

We have thus given, in brief, an outline of these eminent men, two greater than whom, or two who have rendered greater service to mankind, are not to be met with in the roll of English worthies. And those who take any interest in the struggles against difficulty of our great men, will do well to read this volume. The author has done his work admirably, and for this, as well as for the interest naturally attaching to the lives of such men, we commend the work to the notice of our readers.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—Throughout the summer these remedies are always most applicable for the complaints which then prevail, and they will be found most serviceable and invaluable for the relief of diarrhœa, cramps, and English Cholera. These remedies can always be used with perfect safety, by persons of all ages and constitutions, and being compounded with the greatest care, and of the rarest of vegetable extracts, they are unattended with any of those risks which mineral drugs possess. Professor Holloway has compiled a set of instructions for their use in the various maladies to which humanity is subject, and by carefully and perseveringly attending to, and following out their directions, any one can readily treat all ordinary maladies for themselves.

Obituary.

BRO. JOSIAH PERRIN.

IT is our painful task to record the death of Bro. Josiah Perrin, of the Queens Arms, Victoria street, Stalybridge, which took place on Sunday morning, 6th June. Bro. Perrin, who was within a few days of being 68 years of age, was a native of Ashley, near Altrincham, in Cheshire, but had lived for over forty years in Newton. He first commenced business as a grocer, in Muslin-street, but in two or three years after that he built the Queen's Arms and shop in Victoria-street, where he resided until his death. He was very attentive to business, and therefore very prosperous. He was possessed of a most genial disposition and affable manner, and his face was continually beaming with smiles, while his dry caustic humour and witty remarks made him the best of company. He was Treasurer of the Fortitude Lodge, No. 461, of the order of Free-Masons, of which he was one of the oldest members. Bro. Perrin's remains were interred on Thursday, in St. George's Churchyard, Hyde, with Masonic honours.

BRO. JOHN MALLALIEU.

At midnight on Sunday, 6th June, Bro. John Mallalieu, of Carrbrook, breathed his last. He had for many years been Lord Stamford's head gamekeeper on the Stayley Moors. His father held that appointment more than fifty years ago, and the deceased succeeded his brother in the same position. Bro. Mallalieu, who is the brother of the assistant overseer for the parish of Stayley, was a deservedly-respected member of the Moira Lodge, No. 324, of the Order of Freemasons, held at the Wellington Hotel, Caroline Street, Stalybridge. His remains were interred in St. Paul's Churchyard yesterday afternoon. The funeral procession left deceased's residence at Carrbrook at about three o' clock, and it was headed by about a score members of the Craft from the Moira, Fortitude, Royal Alfred, and Stamford and Warrington Lodges. The hearse was followed by four mourning coaches, containing deceased's relatives and friends, and amongst those who paid respect to his memory were members of the Stayley Hunt, and several gentlemen in the employ of Lord Stamford. The funeral service was impressively read by Brother the Rev. J. M. Cranswick, Vicar of St. Paul's. There were not so many spectators as is usual on such occasions, which may be attributed to the inclemency of the weather.

CLUB HOUSE PLAYING CARDS.—Mogul Quality, picked 1s 3d per pack, 14s per dozen packs. Double Decks 1s per pack, 11s per dozen packs. If by post 1s6d per pack extra. Cards for Piquet, Bézique, Ecarté, &c. Mogul Quality 1od per pack, 9s per dozen packs.—London: W. W. Morgan, 67 Barbican, E.C.

DE LA RUE'S INTERNATIONAL PLAYING CARDS.—Portraits of the Royalty of Europe. Post free, 4s 6d. W. W. Morgan, 67 Barbican, London, E.C.

THE DRAMA.

"A Nine Days Wonder" at the Court Theatre. Recent Announcements.

THE comedy with which Mr. Hare opened his campaign at the Court Theatre was a fair specimen of the dramatic writing of the present day. The characteristic of modern English drama is its want of colour and vigour; our plays are inoffensive, it is true, and it is seldom that any piece is hissed off the stage on the night of its production, an occurrence which was not rare in the days of our grandfathers; but this immunity from severe censure is only purchased by a corresponding loss of capacity for warm praise. The pretty inanities of modern comedy, or the colourless creations of modern drama, are powerless to rouse an audience to enthusiasm. Our dramatic authors, in their endeavours to depict the repose of manner of society, appear to have forgotten that that repose is artificial, and that human nature is the same in all ages. In this respect Mr. Hamilton Aidé is not so great a sinner as most of his fellow authors. In his "Philip," played some time ago at the Lyceum, there was no lack of dramatic situations, and his new play at the COURT has plenty of healthy interest. The first act is taken up in placing the characters in position. Mrs. Fitzroy, a widow, is staying at the house of Mr. Vavasour, an old lover, and the visit appears likely to terminate in a wedding. Mr. Vavasour's daughter, Constance, has fallen in love with a young officer, Christian Douglas, and is afraid to communicate the fact of their attachment to her father. Then the interest of the play begins: on Mr. Vavasour's proposing to Mrs. Fitzroy, he is informed that she has a story of her past life to tell him, the story being that she had eloped from her husband with another man, who was afterwards killed in a duel by the husband. Next comes Christian Douglas to propose for the hand of Constance; he, too, has a story to tell, relating to the disgrace brought on his family by the misconduct of his mother; in fact his story is identical with that of Mrs. Fitzroy, and it is evident to the audience that she is his mother. The discovery of their relationship is made when they first meet, and it is certain that one of the two must retire altogether from the house. Ignorant of the engagement between Christian and Constance, Mrs. Fitzroy throws herself on her son's mercy, and implores him to leave her in peace, to which, moved by her repentance and tears, he consents. Constance's grief at his apparent desertion of her discovers the real state of affairs to Mrs. Fitzroy, who, to make all the amends in her power, voluntarily retires from the field, and leaves Christian free to return. The weakest part of the piece is its conclusion, though under the circumstances no other is possible. The acting is generally good, Miss Hollingshead as Constance taking the honours; her rendering is extremely simple and natural. Mr. Hare is well fitted with a part, as the kind genial, Mr. Vavasour, and Mr. Kendal is good as Christian. Mrs. Kendal, as Mrs. Fitzroy, is too young in make-up and appearance, but her acting leaves nothing to be desired. The play is by no means perfect but it is a distinct improvement on anything produced lately. We are thankful that, at least, we are spared the sham smartness of Mr. Byron, or the inane prettiness of Mr. Albery.

Mr. Burnand's burlesque, *Patient Penelope*, has been revived at the STRAND.

At the OLYMPIC, Mr. Albery's comedy will finish its short life to-night, and on Monday, the *Ticket of Leave Man* will be revived, with part of the original cast.

The speedy close of the season is threatened at the HAYMARKET the LYCEUM and the PRINCESS'S Theatres.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

The following statement shows the receipts for traffic on the undermentioned railways for the past week, as compared with the corresponding week in 1874:—

Railway.	Miles open. 1875	Receipts. 1875 £	1874 £
Caledonian	789	55,181	52,917
Glasgow and South Western	315½	18,256	16,946
Great Eastern	763	46,192	42,611
Great Northern	523	55,162	50,563
Great Western	1,525	105,079	101,056
Lancashire and Yorkshire	430	63,623	60,167
London and Brighton	376½	32,036	30,142
London, Chatham and Dover	153½	19,066	18,992
London and North Western	1,582½	168,867	167,816
London and South Western	626½	47,550	37,042
London, Tilbury and Southend	45	2,307	2,154
Manchester and Sheffield	259½	30,698	31,205
Midland	970½	106,195	101,322
Metropolitan	8	9,239	8,648
" " District	8	5,305	4,576
" " St. John's Wood	1½	456	445
North British	839	43,597	38,914
North Eastern	1,393	124,386	110,129
North London	12	6,755	7,024
North Staffordshire Railway	190	9,475	9,377
" " Canal	118	1,596	1,557
South Eastern	350	35,163	35,116

CHINESE CARVING.

FOR Sale, an elaborately carved Set of Ivory Chessmen. The Kings stand 9½ inches high, the other pieces in proportion. Knights and Pawns on horseback, all mounted on stands, with concentric balls. Can be seen, and full particulars obtained, on application to W. W. MORGAN, 67 Barbican.—*Adct.*

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THE MASONIC CELEBRATION IN AMERICA.

The Correspondent of the *Standard* writes as follows:—

The dedication of a new temple in this city by the Masonic fraternity on the 2nd marks an era in the history of Masonry in America. It signalises the completed reaction from the Morgan disaster of nearly half a century ago. Fifty years ago saw the nadir of Masonry, as to-day sees its zenith—relatively, that is to say. In order to appreciate fairly the importance of the demonstration of the day before yesterday we need to glance at the depth from which Masonry has risen since 1826. Outside of Catholic Italy and Spain perhaps nowhere in the world has this Order been so utterly unpopular as it was in the United States, and especially in the State of New York, in the decade following 1826, when the anti-Masonic mania was so great a power in American party politics. The Morgan story was substantially this:—Captain William Morgan, born in Virginia in 1774, and having won his military title under Jackson, in 1815, became a citizen of Batavia, in the State of New York. In 1826 he (associated with Colonel Miller, who early in the affair drops out of the history) being a Mason, announced his intention of publishing a book entitled "The Mysteries of Freemasonry," which was to expose the rites, ceremonies, purposes, and abuses of that Order. This appears to have been about the 1st of August 1826, and a few days thereafter Morgan moved to Canandaigua. A placard, dated 9th August, was posted in that town denouncing Morgan as a "swindler and a dangerous man." Ten days later—on the 19th—he was arrested on some trumped up charge and imprisoned for a short time; but the charges appear to have proved insufficient to keep him in prison, and he was discharged. Threats and denunciations showered thick upon his head. On the 10th of September an attempt was made to burn his printing-office, wherein were his property and the manuscript of the "Mysteries." On the 12th Morgan was arrested by Sheriff Eli Bruce with a posse of Masons, and taken stealthily by day and night journeyings to Fort Niagara, near Niagara Falls, fully a hundred miles from Canandaigua. This was an abandoned American fort, and selected as the place of imprisonment on the pretext of remoteness from the violence of popular fury. Here the world lost sight of Captain Morgan. From that day to this there appears no legal trace of him. Sheriff Bruce was removed from office by Governor De Witt Clinton, convicted of abduction, and sentenced to two and a half years' imprisonment. Several of his posse shared the same fate with different terms of imprisonment.

That is the whole story of Captain Morgan and his abduction by the Masons. The suppositions as to his fate were numerous; one of them being that he was condemned to death by the Masons and dropped into the Niagara river immediately above the Falls. A body was found below the Falls, but was never officially or legally identified, and was too much mutilated to be recognised by those who knew him. Instantly the fires of anti-Masonry began to blaze over the whole State, and finally spread over the whole country. A political party sprang into existence. Prominent among the demagogues of that day who leaped upon the ephemeral wave of popular feeling to ride into place and power, and were fortunate enough to survive it, were Wm. H. Seward, Thaddeus Stevens, and Thurlow Weed. The wave went down in a few years, but the blow to Masonry was lasting, and half a century has not obliterated it. The animus of the anti-Masons, as politicians, may be gathered from an utterance which soon became stereotyped in American politics, and is quoted even to this day. When Thurlow Weed, who was chairman of the State Committee, was asked if he believed that the body discovered in Niagara river was really that of Morgan, he replied that it was "a good enough Morgan until after election." Such at least is the story. Since that day Freemasonry has had to sail against the tide of opposition, bitterness, suspicion and fear, awakened by that Morgan abduction and presumed murder. It has been of only partial avail to urge that an order embracing such names as those of Washington, Franklin, Lafayette, Andrew Jackson, Clay, Calhoun, and a host of others held in respect by Americans, cannot be wholly bad, or even bad in any great degree. But during all these 49 years, since the Morgan era of 1826, the Order has fought its way up, until to-day it is able to muster one of the most imposing parades that New York has witnessed since the obsequies of the assassinated President in 1865.

The temple on Sixth Avenue, the dedication of which was the occasion of the grand parade, was begun several years ago, the first steps being taken in 1843. The corner stone of it was laid in 1870. It stands 165 feet from the curb-stones to the apex of the dome, five storeys high, the style of achitecture being composite in a new sense. The first storey is Tuscan, the second Ionic, the third Corinthian, the fourth composite, and the fifth a Mansard roof of 30 feet. The general effect is decidedly *Renaissance*. The front, on Twenty-third-street, measures 141 feet, and the side, on Sixth-avenue, 91½ feet. The exterior ornamentation is complex and full of symbols. Inside the Grand Lodge Room is the great feature. This measures 85 feet by 92, and comfortably seats one thousand persons. The numerous other rooms and halls are arranged and symbolled for their respective uses. One of the most noticeable halls is the Egyptian Room, where everything is both Egyptian and symbolic. Four curtains, blue, purple, scarlet and white—representing the veils of the tabernacle reared by Moses in the wilderness—may be used to divide it. This room measures 62½ feet by 30, the height being 20 feet, and represents an interior court of a Theban temple. Twenty-six massive Egyptian columns on the west, north, and south walls have lotus capitals and scrolled and reeded entablatures. On the east is a door leading to an inner temple, made after that of Isis at Tentyra, and within Isis headed capitals surmount the columns at the portico. The procession was two hours and ten minutes in passing. The number of Masons in line is very diversely estimated. The *World* says 35,000 men were in it, while the *Herald* says 26,000, and the *Sun* 14,000. It contained delegations and representatives from nearly every state in the Union. The Grand Lodges of Scotland (Mr. Blakie) and the brotherhoods of Quebec, Montreal, and Halifax were represented.

There are in the Americas 9,101 Lodges, according to the best published information available. Of these 8,069 are in the States, 468 in British America, 554 in Mexico and Spanish-American States further south, 12 in Prince Edward's Island and Nassau, and three in the Sandwich Islands. The membership in the States numbers 524,649, and in British America 21,972. The hostility of the Catholic Church to Masonry reduces the numbers of the Order in all Catholic countries. This appears strikingly in the European nations as well as in the Spanish-American States. To illustrate:—Germany has 309 Lodges, and 35,193 members; while Spain, with a population of nearly one-half, has 108 Lodges, but only 4,200 members. The registry of England (including colonial Lodges) shows 1,345 Lodges and 91,750 members, and Scotland 409 Lodges and 21,000 members; while Italy has but 65 Lodges (151 Chapters) and 12,053 members, although the population of the latter is more than seven times that of Scotland. Masonic journals claim to have nine Lodges in China, 42 in India, eight in Burmah, 13 in Egypt, three in Singapore, six in Japan, one in Jerusalem, 25 in South Africa, two in Siberia, and in Persia 50,000 and in Arabia 20,000 members. The membership of 524,649 in the States, in a population of (in 1870) 38,576,371, gives us one Mason to every seventy-four inhabitants—a larger proportion of Masons than is to be found in any other country, so far as I am informed.

It would be unfair, in a notice of the gala celebration such as this, to pass without mention an incident touching the negroes. Although north and South of Saxon blood fraternised cordially, the man and brother of African lineage was excluded from participation in the ceremonies; and this under the management of a people who laid down a million lives a few years ago ostensibly to secure the principle of universal brotherhood and ethnological equality. The exclusion was made conspicuous by an annual communication of the "United Grand Lodge of Coloured Masons of the State of New York," held in this city on the same day. The presiding officer of this communication—the M.W.G. Master W. C. H. Curtis—in his annual address, touched upon their exclusion in decided but delicate terms. He had hoped, he said, at this annual communication, to have joined hands with the brethren of the State of New York working under the national compact, and to have sent forth the glad tidings that henceforth they were one united band; but, he added sorrowfully, the project had failed, and he would not comment on it. On the 24th instant there is to be a centennial demonstration in commemoration of the reception of the charter of coloured lodges of the United States from Great Britain.

ANGEL OF CHARITY.

BY THOMAS MOORE.

Angel of Charity, who, from above,
Comest to dwell a pilgrim here,
Thy voice is music, thy smile is love,
And Pity's soul is in thy tear.
When on the shrine of God were laid
First-fruits of all most good and fair,
That ever bloom'd in Eden's shade,
Thine was the holiest offering there.

Hope and her sister, Faith, were given
But as our guides to yonder sky;
Soon as they reach the verge of heaven,
There, lost in perfect bliss, they die.*
But, long as Love, Almighty Love,
Shall on His throne of thrones abide,
Thou, Charity, shalt dwell above,
Smiling for ever by His side!

* "Then Faith shall fail, and holy Hope shall die,
One lost in certainty, and one in joy."—Paton.

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THE THEATRES, &c.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.—This evening, LUCREZIA BORGIA. On Monday, DON GIOVANNI. On Tuesday, RIGOLETTO. On Wednesday, GUGLIELMO TELL. On Thursday, SEMIRAMIDE. On Friday, LES HUGUENOTS. At 8.30 each evening

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA, DRURY LANE.—This evening, SEMIRAMIDE. On Monday LOHENGRIN. On Tuesday, LA TRAVIATA. On Thursday, LOHENGRIN, at 8.30 each evening, except on Monday when the Opera will commence at 8.0. On Monday morning, at 2.30, and Friday evening, at 8.30, OTHELLO. On Wednesday evening, at 8.30, HAMLET.

HAYMARKET.—At 7.30, A FAIR ENCOUNTER, DAVID GARRICK, and THE SERIOUS FAMILY.

ADELPHI.—At 6.45, PAINLESS DENTISTRY, NICHOLAS NICKLEBY and FUN IN A FOG.

PRINCESS'S.—At 7.15, HEARTSEASE. At 9.15, ROUND THE WORLD IN EIGHTY DAYS.

LYCEUM.—At 6.50, FISH OUT OF WATER. At 7.45, HAMLET. On Saturday, a morning performance at 2.30 only.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.30, TWENTY MINUTES WITH A TIGER. AT 8.0, THE SPENDTHRIFT. On Monday the TICKET OF LEAVE MAN.

STRAND.—At 7.30, AN EARNEST APPEAL. At 8.0, WEAK WOMAN and PATIENT PENELOPE.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 8.0, MONEY.

GAIETY.—At 8.0, FRENCH OPERA.

GLOBE.—At 7.0, EAST LYNNE and BLUE BEARD. (Last Nights.)

ST. JAMES'S.—At 7.30, THE DANCING BARBER. At 8.30, TOM COBB, At 10.15, THE ZOO.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG, OUR BOYS and A FEARFUL FOG.

CHARING CROSS.—At 8.0, A CURE FOR THE FIDGETS. At 8.40 CATTARINA. 10.45, THE MAGILTONS.

MIRROR.—At 7.0, NAVAL ENGAGEMENTS. At 9.15, THE DETECTIVE.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, THE ARTFUL DODGE and CHILPERIC.

CRITERION.—At 8.0, GIROFLE-GIROFLA.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—This Day, visit of the Sultan of Zanzibar, FIREWORK DISPLAY, CONCERT, &c. Open daily. AQUARIUM, PICTURE GALLERY, &c.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.—This day, ITALIAN CONCERT. On Monday, FIREWORK DISPLAY. On Tuesday and Thursday, CREATURES OF IMPULSE. On Wednesday, CHORAL FETE. On Thursday and Friday, GREAT ROSE SHOW. Open daily. HENGLER'S CIRCUS, &c.

POLYTECHNIC.—THE MAGICIAN AND THE GENII, with a NEW GHOST Scene.—ARCTIC EXPEDITIONS, Past and Present.—THE BESSEMER BOAT.—FOOD from AFAR, and ECONOMICAL COOKING.—JANE CONQUEST.—THE MECHANICAL LEOTARD.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, and many other Entertainments. Open twice daily, at 12.0 and 7.0. Admission, 1s.

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EGYPTIAN HALL.—MASKELYNE AND COOKE, at 3.0 and 8.0.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL, Langham Place.—Mr. and Mrs. GERMAN REED, at 8.0. Thursday and Saturday, at 3.0 only.

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FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE

67 BARBICAN, E.C.

TOPICS OF THE DAY.

IN Parliament considerable progress has been made with sundry measures of importance. On Friday, in the House of Lords, Earl Delawarr moved the appointment of a select committee of inquiry as to the state of the law regarding the transport of cattle by sea and land. The Duke of Richmond pointed out, however, that the motion was unnecessary, and that the Privy Council possessed ample powers, whereupon, after a few remarks from Lord Carlingford, the motion was withdrawn. The Exeter Union of Benefices Bill was also withdrawn at the suggestion of the Lord Chancellor, the Archbishop of Canterbury, and others. On Monday, the principal subject that engaged the attention of the House, was that on Out-door Relief, to which Lord Lyttelton drew attention. The motion was withdrawn, however. On Tuesday, the Bishopric of St. Albans Bill was read a second time, after which their Lordships went into Committee *pro formâ* on the General School of Law Bill. The Sale of Food and Drugs Bill was then discussed clause by clause, and ultimately emerged from Committee without amendment. The House then adjourned till Thursday, when the Artisans' Dwellings Bill was read a third time, after a few remarks from the Earl of Roseberry and Earl Nelson. On the question that the Bill do pass, Lord Redesdale proposed an amendment, limiting the power of local boards in certain cases to take compulsory possession of property. Earl Beauchamp at first objected, but on the recommendation of the Duke of Richmond and the Lord Chancellor, it was ultimately accepted, and the Bill passed. The second reading of the Public Health Bill is fixed for Monday week.

In the House of Commons Mr. Butt's resolution for the appointment of a Royal Commission to inquire into the operation of the Irish Land Act of 1870 was negatived by a considerable majority, Sir M. Beach opposing the motion on behalf of the Government. Mr. Whalley gained nothing by his motion on the subject of Contempt of Court. The House then went into Committee of Supply, and voted sundry of the estimates for the Civil Service. One or two votes were opposed, but unsuccessfully, the vote for the Privy Seal being carried by a majority of 80 in a comparatively thin House. On Monday, the adjourned debate on the Supreme Court of Judicature Bill was resumed by Mr. Forsyth. Messrs. Lowe and G. Hardy, Sir H. James, the Solicitor General, Lord Elcho, and others took part in the discussion that followed, and in the end Mr. Williams withdrew his amendment, and the Bill passed its second reading. The consideration of the Offences against the Person Amendment Act, on its second reading, occupied nearly the whole of the rest of the sitting, Mr. P. A. Taylor moving its rejection. The debate was adjourned, and so too, after voting further supplies in Committee, was the House. On

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Tuesday, Mr. O. Morgan's amendment, on the motion that the House go into Committee on the Land Titles and Transfer Bill was withdrawn, the adjourned debate resulting in the House going into Committee *pro formâ*. The Hampstead Heath Hospital was next brought under the notice of the House, by Mr. O. E. Coope, after which Dr. Kenealy proposed to introduce a Bill for Triennial Parliaments, but a "count out" stopped the flow of the hon. gentleman's eloquence, and the motion, perforce, fell through. On Wednesday, Sir W. Lawson moved the second reading of his Permissive Bill, but the House failed to appreciate the attempt of the Honourable Baronet to make Britons sober by Act of Parliament and rejected his Bill by the sweeping majority of 371 to 85. The most telling speech was that of Mr. Roebuck, the veteran member for Sheffield, who pointed out that the measure was unwise, unjust, and most impracticable. On Thursday, on the motion of the Attorney General an address to Her Majesty, praying for a commission of inquiry into the Existence of Corrupt Practices at Norwich, to consist of Messrs. J. M. Howard Q.C., P. M'Mahon, and G. P. Goldney, was agreed to. Mr. Whalley and Dr. Kenealy objected, but Mr. Bright strongly supported it. On the motion to go into Committee on the Merchant Shipping Act, Mr. E. Smith moved an abstract resolution, which barred the way to real progress. Several speakers addressed the House, and at last the resolution was withdrawn, and the House went into Committee. Clauses 1 to 3 were agreed to. Divisions took place, in favour of clauses 4 and 5. They stand over, however, for further consideration. On clause 9 Mr. Hamond moved its omission, when a long debate ensued, the Committee ultimately reporting progress by 141 to 93. The House soon afterwards rose.

On Wednesday, by command of the Queen, a State Ball was given at Buckingham Palace, the royal party included the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Prince and Princess Louis of Hesse, the Prince and Princess Christian, the Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne, the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, the Dukes of Connaught and Cambridge, the Duke and Duchess of Teck. All the world of rank and fashion received invitations. On Saturday, the Dukes of Edinburgh, Connaught, and Cambridge honoured the Lord and Lady Mayoress with their presence at dinner at the Mansion House, a distinguished circle of noblemen and gentlemen, including the elder brethren of the Trinity House, and Thames and Lea Conservancy Boards, being present. The usual round of toasts followed, the Duke of Edinburgh responding for the Royal Family, and the Duke of Cambridge for the Army, while the Duke of Connaught proposed the health of the Lord Mayor. On Monday, the Prince and Princess of Wales, who have been staying temporarily at Titness Park, with a select party of guests paid a visit to Virginia Water, where they disported themselves fishing, and sailing, and canoeing. The two sons of the Prince of Wales were also present. Dinner was served in the Fishing Cottage, and the party returned to Titness Park about 10 o'clock.

It is a stale joke, we believe, but one that seems to bear a good deal of repetition, that the "Royal Hascot" week is becomingly followed by "'Appy 'Ampton." The fact is so, and Thursday and yesterday the pretty course at the latter well-known resort of the London *bourgeoisie* offered the usual evidences of festivity. The sport, which is looked upon on these occasions as only of secondary interest, was of the usual character, and calls for no special comment. The fun is in the going and returning, and the heavy feeding on the course.

The Alexandra Palace Horse Show has proved a great success. There were some 275 entries, and most of the judges' decisions gave satisfaction. On Wednesday, the first day of the leaping, some 20,000 were present, the course being lined all round with people three or four deep, while on the Grand Stand there was hardly a vacant place at 1 p.m. Shortly after that hour over twenty fours-in-hand, belonging to members of the Coaching and Four-in-hand Clubs, drove on to the ground, on one of them being the ex-King and Queen of Naples, the other distinguished visitors including the Duke and Duchess of Hamilton, the Earl and Countess of Aylesford, the Marquis of Waterford and Sir George Wombwell. One serious accident only occurred, and that was to a little mare named "Topsey," which fell into the pond, so injuring its back as to leave no hope of its recovery. On Thursday, the Sultan of Zanzibar paid a visit to the Show, and his presence, of course, added greatly to the attractions of the day. The weather at first was more brilliant than we had reason to hope, but heavy showers of rain fell in the forenoon of Wednesday, and also on Thursday and yesterday, and may have affected the success of the Show so far as the attendance of visitors is concerned. Monday, which was devoted to a Temperance Fete, brought also a full attendance, and for to-day another of the delightful Italian Opera Concerts is announced. On Thursday and Friday of next week we are promised a Rose Show, while on Saturday there will be an Exhibition of Roses and other plants in pots. We shall always gladly chronicle the doings at this North London Resort of Pleasure. We hope the season will continue as prosperously as it has began, and that future years will prove equally satisfactory.

The Crystal Palace will, to-day, be honoured by a visit from the Sultan of Zanzibar, when a special programme, including the performance of Handel's "Acis and Galatea," will be provided for the occasion, the whole terminating with a grand display of fireworks. The Rose Show here is fixed for next Saturday.

People are already beginning to think of the end of the season, when the annual migration of all London, which means of just a few thousands of its enormous population, to the seaside and inland resorts of pleasure, will form the staple topic of news for a few months. One of these evidences that this flight of Londoners is not so very remote is the announcement in the papers of the last few weeks of the Operatic season. As to what has been latterly done at the rival houses, we may note that "Lohengrin" was produced at Her Majesty's last Saturday, while to-night "Semiramide" will be performed at Her Majesty's, and at the Royal Italian "Lucreza Borgia" in lieu of "Semiramide," as previously announced. Sir Julius Benedict's Annual Grand Morning Concert will be held on Monday, in the Floral Hall. The last of the series of New Philharmonic Concerts comes off this morning at 2.30 p.m., while on Wednesday, Madame Christine Nilsson's Morning Concert will be held at St. James's Hall, in aid of the funds of the Westminster Training School and Home for Nurses.

We noticed recently the number of long scores that were being made at Cricket. Since then there appears to have been a falling off in the contributions of the leading players, more modest performances having become the rule where before they were the exception. Even Mr. W. G. Grace has hardly come up to his usual standard, such trifling contributions as 19, 10, 35, being among his most considerable. This, however, is only to be expected. Every cricketer knows how difficult it is to calculate upon the performances even of the finest players. A man will make a three figure innings on Monday, and the day following be disposed of for a duck. A bowler will take six, or it may be seven, wickets one day, and be hit all over the field the next, without making the slighest impression on the batsmen. Perhaps, the only certainties about this admirable game are its "glorious uncertainties," and that is about all we can reckon upon. In its recent contests, Gloucestershire has been less successful than usual. In its match with Sussex it was defeated by seven wickets, in spite of the efforts of the Leviathan, who put together 77 out of the 187 made off the bat. The feature of the match was Mr. J. Winslow's 124 for Sussex. Another grand performance was the bowling of A. Shaw for Notts in the match v. M.C.C., his analysis shows 41-2 overs, of which 36 were maidens, for 7 runs and 7 wickets. The weather, however, has not been favourable of late, the wind has been far too high.

The Stud Company's yearling sale came off last Saturday, at Cobham. There was a large attendance, in spite of the weather being somewhat unfavourable. The thirty-eight animals disposed of realised 14,885 guineas, or an average of nearly 202 guineas. A chestnut cob, by Blair Athol, fetched 1,800 guineas; a bay colt, by Macaroni, 1,700 guineas; two other Blair Athols were knocked down for 1,500 and 1,100 respectively. A former Derby winner, Macaroni, was sold the same afternoon for 7,100 guineas, and goes to the Mentmore stud. To-day is the Middle Park Yearlings Sale at Eltham.

The annual banquet of the Newspaper Press Fund, was held on Saturday evening at Willis's Rooms, St. James. The Dean of Westminster presided, and there were present Lord Houghton, president of the Fund, Count Beust, Lords Colchester and Crewe, and several M.P.'s. The subscriptions announced amounted to over £1,000.

A most successful meeting was convened on Tuesday, at

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Marlborough House by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, as President of the Society of Arts, for the purpose of establishing Free Scholarships for Metropolitan Students in the National Training School for Music. His Royal Highness was supported by the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Christian, the Duke of Teck, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs, Lord Hampton; and there were present, Mr. Cole C.B., Sir B. Whitworth, Sir J. Hawshaw, Sir T. Dakin and others. The Prince of Wales announced, during the meeeting, that Mr. C. J. Freake had presented to the School, as a free gift, the premises now in course of construction, which he had originally intended to place at the disposal of the Committee for a term of five years. The Duke of Edinburgh proposed the appointment of a general committee for the establishment of Free Scholarships, and the Archbishop of Canterbury seconded it. Several gentlemen addressed the meeting, the Master of the Mercers' Company announcing that the Company would make a grant annually of £50 towards the foundation of one Scholarship, to be called the "Mercers' Musical Scholarship." Sir T. Dakin on behalf of the Fishmongers' Company announced that it intended to found two, and Alderman Cotton promised the support of the Haberdashers' Company. The resolution was carried unanimously. Votes of thanks to the Prince of Wales for calling the meeting and presiding over it, and to Mr. Freake for his great liberality, brought the proceedings to a close.

The review at Longchamps of the Paris Garrison is the most noteworthy item of intelligence from France. About 36,000 troops were on the ground, under the command of General Ladmirault. Marshal MacMahon, President of the Republic, having ridden along the line, attended by a brillant staff, took up a position facing the tribunes, and the troops then marched past. All accounts agree in stating that though the regiments were numerically weak, mere *cadres* in fact, the men looked well and stepped out bravely. It is also stated the Tripartite alliance of the Emperors of Austria, Germany, and Russia has ceased to exist, Russia having withdrawn from it, and that in consequence of this, an alliance between Sweden and Germany will be formed. It is further reported that the official relations between Russia and the Vatican are about to be formally re-established. From Berlin the news is, that the Arnim trial, the result of which was deemed so unsatisfactory, both by the Government and Count Arnim, has been re-opened. The decision of the Judges will be made known on the 24th instant. Italy has been spared a ministerial crisis, the Government having obtained a majority of 17 on the Public Safety Bill, the votes being 220 to 223. Since then its other measures have been passed by large majorities, and now the labours of the Parliament are closed. On Wednesday, the Pope entered on the 30th year of his Papacy, and received the congratulations of the Cardinals and from other bodies. From Spain we hear that the Alphonsist operations to combat Carlism are in progress, while from America the chief news is that the locusts are ravaging the Trans-Mississippi States, notably Colorado, Kansas, and Missouri. Hopes are entertained, however, that the destruction may not be so great as last year.

The Sixth Annual Fete of the Metropolitan and City Police Orphanage will be held at the Crystal Palace, on Wednesday, 30th June, under the patronage of Her Majesty the Queen, Bro. Col. Henderson C.B., Col. Fraser C.B., Capt. W. C. Harriss, Lieut.-Col. D. W. P. Labalmoudiere, Lieut.-Col. R. L. O. Pearson, and the Hon. Sec., Bro. James Mott. This excellent institution was established 1st January 1870 to afford relief to as many destitute orphans of the members of the Metropolitan and City Police forces as the funds will allow of, to provide them with clothing, maintenance and education, and to place them in situations, where the prospect of an honest livelihood shall be secured. The site of the new Orphanage is Wellesley House, Twickenham, and is well worthy of a visit. Tickets for the Fete can be obtained at all the Metropolitan and City Police Stations.

We have received, this morning (Friday), a copy of the Report of the Deputy Prov. G.M. West Yorkshire, addressed to the Yorkshire Vice Presidents of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. We will refer to it next week.

DEDICATION OF THE NEW MASONIC TEMPLE IN NEW YORK.

WE have received accounts of this imposing ceremonial, but, for this week, must content ourselves with announcing that everything passed off most successfully. The brethren were marshalled in twenty-six divisions, and as each division comprised about a thousand members, those who joined the procession could have been little short of 26,000. After the grand parade the dedication services were performed. The R.W.G.M. Ellwood E. Thorne, with the other Grand Officers, having taken their seats in Grand Lodge, a selection of music was played. Then one of the Grand Chaplains having offered up an appropriate prayer, and other religious ceremonies having been performed, the Grand Master delivered a most eloquent address, in which he congratulated all present on the significant event of the day. Banquets took place in honour of the occasion. We must hold over any detailed account.

R.W. Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, as Captain of the Yeomen of the Guards, will make his annual inspection in the grounds of St. James's Palace on Tuesday next, and afterwards entertain the Yeomen at dinner, at the Criterion, Regent's Circus.

THE BUTTERFLIES OF MASONRY.

(*From the* HEBREW LEADER.)

WE have often noticed, in our daily walk and conversation, newly fledged brethren whose sole ambition seems to be on the surface rather than in the soul. Bedecked with gew-gaws, Masonic insignia, and tawdy trappings, they mark their consequence among the Craft by what may be justly termed a garish display of "fuss and feathers." This is certainly anything else than a proper and discreet appreciation of their admission into our noble Order, and gives but poor promise of future usefulness.

In this connection we have, with approving pleasure, received a communication from that ripe scholar and distinguished Craftsman, Ill. John M. Miller, 32°, of Baltimore, and which is so *d propos* that we extract largely from it as follows:—

"Is it possible for any person or persons skilled in human lore, or sufficiently well acquainted with the vagaries and eccentricities of that creature commonly designated 'man,' to dispense some of his knowledge in ventilating the subject of Masonic jewellery; as to where it originated, and for what purpose so vast a store of Masonic knickknacks are continuously and so ostentatiously shown off by so great a number of people, who are either Masons, or else have a most intense desire to make others believe them to be such?

"The very manufacturer of these ornamental badges, many of them exceeding in size and 'beauty' even those of a police officer, or a car conductor, must be a perfect godsend to the multitude who supply the Fraternity. It looks as if about one-half of the Order had been taught to believe that they were not Masons unless they carried with them their entire set of emblems—the larger the better—and that they must display them so as to be observed by every one. To see the great number of squares, compasses keystones, and various other what-nots, sported by every third man we meet, ought certainly to convince the most sceptical that our Order is indeed 'universal.' Who will gainsay the fact that half of our initiates and members sport their gilded pins or heavy ornaments before they are far enough advanced to even say where they were '*first*' made Masons, let alone possess any knowledge of the meaning of their show-cards?

"Too often we blame the female sex for their love of display, their brooches and their earrings, their fingers clustered with diamonds, or something equally as useful so easily obtained from the dollar stores, scarce remembering that it has ever been one of the characteristics of the fair sex to adorn themselves and add to their already too numerous charms, that of personal adornment; and yet, at the same time, we must confess that those who wield the implements of the Craft, and who belong to the sterner sex, very often eclipse them in the exhibition of their ornaments.

"The emblem-wearing mania, so strong at present, is not too highly calculated to elevate us in the regard and esteem of those not numbered with us. * * *

"The true Freemason requires no outside badge or sign to proclaim himself as such. He who cannot make himself known without converting his body into a walking sign-post, had best begin afresh to study up his forgotten knowledge—provided he ever had any to forget—and then he may feel disposed to have the size of his decorations slightly curtailed.

"Regalia and decorations are beautiful in themselves, when properly and appropriately worn, but they have their proper time and place for exhibition. How soon does anything lose the charm of novelty and beauty by constant exposure to our every day gaze?

"It is a bitter truth that the public displayers of Masonic emblems are the very ones who are the least often seen in their Lodge rooms, and who know, least of all, those things which really make the good and true Mason, or solve the meaning of the 'emblems' so largely displayed."

If these few remarks will induce even a few brethren to go to the Lodge and there show off their massive jewelry, and afterwards quietly lock it up, and then appear like men before the public gaze, they will not have been written in vain.

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MONEY MARKET AND CITY NEWS.

FRIDAY.

FOR some time trade has been in a very bad state, and the past few days has seen the stoppage of several large houses in the city. The suspension of Messrs. Alexander Collie and Co., commission merchants, announced on Tuesday afternoon, with liabilities said to amount to nearly three millions sterling, has since proved to involve several houses. The following have suspended payment in consequence:—Messrs. Young, Borthwick & Co., bill brokers, with liabilities on bills bearing their guarantee of about 2½ millions sterling; Messrs. John Anderson and Co., liabilities about £200,000; Messrs. Rainbow, Holberton and Co. over £100,000; Messrs. Strachan and Co. about £200,000; Messrs. Malcolm, Hudson and Co. about £100,000; Mr. J. C. Fowlie about £100,000. Apart from Messrs. Collie and Co., the following firms have suspended:—Messrs. Robert Benson and Co., Messrs. A. Gonzales and Co., and Messrs. Henry Adamson and Sons.

As the end of the half year is now rapidly approaching, various estimates are being made as to the probable extent of some of the dividends. In the case of the joint-stock banks, says the *Standard*, a reduction is anticipated, by reason of the small supply of mercantile bills and numerous failures during the six months. Suspensions throughout the country have been notified from time to time, but in some cases private arrangements have been made without any publicity, and in other instances estates have been virtually liquidated by the firms themselves, 20s in the £ being paid and new business being refused with the certainty of loss. It is estimated that the total liabilities of houses that have actually failed in the half-year reach at least £8,000,000, of which about half may represent real loss. But this loss, it must be remembered, is distributed throughout the United Kingdom, a comparatively small amount being amongst the London banks. According to present appearances the dividend on the estate of Messrs. Fothergill, Hankey and Co. will not exceed 2s to 3s in the £, but, as previously stated, the liabilities of Messrs. Sanderson and Co. are mostly covered by good bills. As regards some banks, dividends may be kept up to the old level by withdrawals from reserve funds, the object of such funds being, it is argued, to equalise dividends, and in other cases a recognition of losses may be deferred till next half-year, on the ground that, pending decisive information respecting the dividends to be paid on certain estates, no real estimate can be formed as to the extent of losses.

The total liabilities of Messrs. J. C. Im Thurn and Co., who stopped payment on 31st March last, are now estimated at £313,806.

The directors of the London and Provincial Marine Insurance Company have decided to pay the usual interest for the half year ending 30th June at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, free of income tax.

The East Indian Railway Company announce the paymant of a dividend 2s 6d extra, making £2 12s 6d, instead of £2 10s, for the half-year ending June.

An extraordinary general meeting of the East London Railway Company was held on Thursday, when a resolution was passed authorising the raising of £400,000.

The General Post Office issued, on Thursday, an important notice with reference to the "General Postal Union," of which the following are parts:—

"In accordance with the provisions of an International Treaty concluded at Berne, on the 9th October last, the whole of the States of Europe, the United States of America, and Egypt, have formed themselves into a General Postal Union, for the reciprocal exchange of correspondence, and have agreed to adopt low and uniform rates of postage for all correspondence despatched from one State of the Union to another.

"As a general measure, these provisions, which extend to letters, postcards, newspapers, and other printed papers, patterns of merchandise, and legal and commercial documents, will take effect on the 1st July next, but, in the case of France, not until the 1st January 1876.

The following is the official return of the Bankers' Clearing House for the week ending 16th June:—

Thursday, 10th June	£13,315,000
Friday, 11th June	15,253,000
Saturday, 12th June	21,552,000
Monday, 14th June	17,380,000
Tuesday, 15th June	17,496,000
Wednesday, 16th June	40,371,000
	£125,397,000

At the corresponding week last year the total was £136,269,000. Both returns included a Stock Exchange settlement.

At a meeting of the Court of Common Council held yesterday afternoon, at which the Lord Mayor presided, it was resolved, on the motion of Mr. Deputy Stapleton, seconded by Mr. R. N. Philips, to present an address of welcome to his Highness the Sultan of Zanzibar in a gold casket of the value of 100 guineas. The following letter was read from his Royal Highness the Prince Leopold:—

KENSINGTON PALACE, 16th June 1875.

My Lord,—In answer to the communication that you have kindly made to me, I beg to inform your lordship that it will give me great pleasure to take upon myself the freedom of the City of London.

I remain, your lordship's very faithfully,

LEOPOLD.

The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor of London.

Mr. Wm. Lawley, the Chairman of the City Lands Committee, announced that Thursday, the 29th of July, had been fixed for the grand banquet in the Guildhall to M. Ferdinand Duval, the Prefect of the Seine, and the principal municipal authorities of England and the Continent.

DEMISSION.

UPON the subject of demission from Masonry, Grand Master Irwin, of Georgia, says: "I will take this occasion to lift my warning voice to you and to the Grand Lodges on this continent, against a great heresy which is springing up upon the question of demission, which has been advanced by able men and true Masons, and argued with great zeal and ability, but which, in my opinion, is a heresy nevertheless, and that is this: 'That as a man comes into our institution of his own free will and accord, so he should be allowed to go out of it of his own free will and accord, else he is not a free man; and that if Masonry refuses this privilege they thereby restrict the freedom of an individual and makes him in one sense a slave.' Does not the marriage tie do the same thing, sanctioned as it is by the laws of both God and man? Marriage is not lawful unless it is entered into by persons of lawful age to contract, and who do contract 'of their own free will and accord;' but when thus contracted and consummated, neither party can throw off its yoke, whether it be one of iron or of rose leaves, 'of their own free will and accord.' Mrs. Woodhull and her followers denounce the law of marriage, because it restricts the personal freedom of the parties and prevents them from (if so inclined) indulging in unbridled license. Are we to have free-loveism in Freemasonry also, based as it is upon the same argument? A Mason by withdrawing from a Lodge severs his connection with that Lodge, and is no longer bound to discharge the duties of a member, but does he sever his connection with individual brethren? Is he not still bound to them, or are they not still bound to him, by ties which nothing but death or expulsion can sever? Will you permit him to say, to-day, I am no longer a Mason; and, to-morrow, when he changes his mind under the pressure of misfortune, and appeals to you for help, will you, can you turn him empty away and keep a clear conscience? Suppose death lays its hand upon him, and after he is laid away his wife and little ones call upon you for bread, can they not triumphantly point you to his demit 'in good standing,' and defy you to produce any record showing that any Lodge ever reversed that judgment by either suspending or expelling him? In the day of our greatest prosperity many men sought admission into our Lodges either from mercenary motives or idle curiosity, and were received; so soon as they found that either their personal or political ambition was not gratified by their admission, or as soon as the novelty wore off, they applied for demits and fell away from active duty as members and refused to bear their proportionate share of the burdens because the heart preparation had been ever lacking. Should adversity once again lay its iron hand upon the institution, such men would be the first to head the crusade against it. They would turn and rend it with the fury of the *sans culottes* of Paris during the bloody reign of Robespierre, Danton and Marat. Cut all such off by the solemn judgment of your Lodges, and let the record speak against them. As duties are reciprocal, so are obligations. If an individual brother may sever his connection with the whole Fraternity at will, why may not the whole Fraternity sever their connection with him and cast him off without a trial and without the semblance of a judgment against him? Bring it down to this, and our boasted chain of Brotherhood of golden links, holding us together in its loving and strong embrace, becomes a mere rope of sand. Once a Mason always a Mason, until death or the judgment of the Lodge cutting him off, after trial for some offence deserving expulsion, is the only safe and the only true Masonic doctrine."

PRAYER IN THE LODGE.—The immemorial landmarks are silent upon the subject of prayer, hence to them we cannot appeal for light. No particular form of prayer was used in the Lodge about 120 years ago, when the Grand Lodge of England decreed the use of Christian prayers; but as this regulation was local in its nature, binding only upon subordinates in allegiance to the English Grand Lodge, none can claim for it the sanctity that necessarily abides in a landmark. Masonry, in its original formation, bore no evidence of sectarianism—belief in God and a just reference for Him as the source of all light and truth, was the only prerequisite exacted of its initiates, nor is more now demanded. The Jewish and Christian Mason alike claim to honour, reverence and obey Jehovah; each regards the prayer made to Him as just and proper. The Jewish brother worships God as a unity; the Christian Mason worships Him as a trinity. The latter, in praying through his Redeemer, thereby petitions, according to his theological views, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. When, therefore, a Christian brother is called upon in a Lodge for a prayer, he is privileged by our Ritualistic teaching to follow in the light of his own conscience; and if he invokes the blessing through his Redeemer, he thereby violates no landmark, nor does he infringe upon any of the vital principles of our Order.—*Pomeroy's Democrat.*

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DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the Kingdom will favour us with a list of their Days of Meeting, &c. as we have decided to insert only those that are verified by the Officers of the several Lodges.

SATURDAY, 19th JUNE.

1185—Lewis, King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green.

149—Peace, Masonic Rooms, Meltham.

SUNDAY, 20th JUNE.

54—Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Rochdale. (Instruction.)

MONDAY, 21st JUNE.

45—Strong Man, Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell Green, at 8. (Instruction.)
77—Freedom, Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend.
236—York, Masonic Hall, York.
303—Hope, Masonic Hall, Bradford.
307—Prince Frederick, White Horse Hotel, Hebden Bridge.
359—Peace and Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton.
466—Merit, George Hotel, Stamford Baron, Northampton.
633—St. Cuthburga, Masonic Hall, Wimbourne, Dorset.
673—Lewis, Masonic Hall, Whitehaven.
925—Bedford, Masonic Hall, Birmingham.
1030—Egerton, George Hotel, Heaton Norris.
1179—St. George, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.

M.M. 141—Skelmersdale, Pitt and Nelson Hotel, Ashton-under-Lyne.
M.M. 171—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.

TUESDAY, 22nd JUNE.

226—Benevolence, Red Lion Hotel, Littleborough.
510—St. Martin's, Masonic Hall, Liskeard.
1158—Southern Star, Montpelier Tavern, Walworth. (Emergency.)

WEDNESDAY, 23rd JUNE.

196—Confidence, White Hart, Abchurch Lane, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
210—Duke of Athol, Nottingham Castle Inn, Denton.
266—Naphthali, Masonic Rooms, Market-place, Heywood.
274—Tranquillity, Boar's Head Inn, Newchurch-in-Rossendale.
290—Huddersfield, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield.
301—Apollo, Swan Hotel, Alcester. (Installation.)
363—Keystone, New Inn, Whitworth, near Rochdale.
503—Belvidere, Star Hotel, Maidstone. (Instruction.)
910—St. Oswald, Masonic Hall, Pontefract.
934—Merit, Church Inn, Whitefield, near Bury.

M.M. 175—St. Michael, Masonic Rooms, Helston, Cornwall.

THURSDAY, 24th JUNE.

36—Glamorgan, Freemasons' Hall, Cardiff.
39—St. John the Baptist, Masonic Hall, Exeter.
51—Angel, Three Cups Hotel, Colchester.
60—Peace and Harmony, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, E.C.
79—Imperial George, Asbeton Arms Hotel, Middleton.
100—Friendship, Crown and Anchor Hotel, Great Yarmouth.
132—Unity, White Hart Hotel, Ringwood.
160—True Friendship, Old Ship, Rochdale.
215—Commerce, Commercial Inn, Haslingden.
269—Fidelity, White Bull Hotel, Blackburn.
286—Samaritan, Green Man Hotel, Bacup.
348—St. John, Bull's Head Inn, Bolton.
367—Probity and Freedom, Bull's Head Inn, Smallbridge, near Rochdale.
594—Downshire, 90 Duke Street, Liverpool.
935—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Salford.
966—St. Edward, Literary Institute, Leek, Staffordshire.
1459—Ashbury, Justice Birch Hotel, Hyde-road, West Gorton, near Manchester.

M.M. 34—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
R. A. 54—Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Rochdale.
R. A. 286—Strength, Green Man Hotel, Bacup.

FRIDAY, 25th JUNE.

1507—Metropolitan, 289 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)

R. A. 163—Integrity, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.

IRELAND.

MONDAY—494—Dublin, Freemasons' Hall, Dublin.
TUESDAY—195—St. Patrick's, Masonic Rooms, Belfast.
THURSDAY—116—Carlow, Masonic Hall, Carlow.
" 308—Ballymahon, Court House, Ballymahon.
" 372—Gilhall, Princes Street, Dromore, co. Down.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY.—44—St. Luke, Freemasons' Hall.
TUESDAY—151—Defensive Band, Alexander Hall, Cockburn-street.
R. A. 40—Naval and Military, Freemasons' Hall.
WEDNESDAY—112—St. John, Fisher-row, Royal Hotel, Musselburgh.
THURSDAY.—302—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall.
FRIDAY—223—Trafalgar, 54 Bernard-street, Leith.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, No. 45.—The weekly meeting was held on Monday, 14th instant, at the Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell Green. Present—Bros. Pearcy W.M., Kidder S.W., Halford J.W., Walker S.D., Bensley J.D., Rend I.G., Christopher Tyler, Killick Secretary; Past Masters—Bros. Beckett, preceptor, Killick sen. and Frost, and a numerous gathering of members. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last weekly meeting were confirmed; Bro. Stock passed to the degree of F.C., and Bro. Jones was raised to the degree of M.M., the W.M. working the ceremonies in a very able manner, with the traditional history and explanation of the tracing board. The first section of third Lecture worked by the brethren, under the able instruction of Bro. Beckett, the much respected Preceptor of the Lodge. Bro. Kidder was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week.

Angel Lodge, No. 51.—Monthly meeting held on 15th May, at the Lodge Room, Cups Hotel, Colchester. Present—Bros. Chas. Cobb W.M., A. Welch S.W., J. Coppin as J.W., S. W. Crookes S.D., T. J. Ralling Secretary. Past Masters Bros. F. A. Cole, C. O. G. Becker M.D., T. Rix and 15 brethren. Business transacted:—Unanimous vote for a joining member, and ceremonies of installation, passing and raising. A candidate proposed. Before the close of the Lodge, the W.M. drew attention to the fact that this was the last occasion upon which they should have the pleasure of meeting the brethren of the 88th (Connaught Rangers), and 10th (North Lincoln) Regiments, previous to their marching out from the garrison, and proposed that the Secretary should record upon the minutes the pleasure the members had felt in the constant presence amongst them of several of the officers of those Regiments, and the great regret with which their coming departure was looked upon by the members, and to wish them a hearty God speed wherever they might be. The motion having been seconded by the S.W., supported by Bro. Coppin P.M., and cordially and unanimously carried, Bro. Capt. Owen (88th), on behalf of himself and brother officers, thanked the W.M. and brethren for the cordial way in which they had been received on all occasions by the brethren of the Angel Lodge. They all regretted very much that the time of their departure had come; but wherever they were quartered (and in the course of two years they must expect to be ordered on foreign service), the hours spent in the Angel Lodge would be amongst their most pleasing reminiscences. At the festive board also the health of the military brethren was drunk in a loving cup, and mutual regrets at parting were again expressed.

All Souls' Lodge, No. 170.—The monthly meeting was held on 11th June, at the Masonic Hall, Weymouth. Present—Bros. Pelly Hooper W.M., H. T. George S.W., T. A. Hanne J.W., A. Graham S.D., E. T. Targett J.D., J. Lundie P.M. Steward, J. A. Sherren I.G., R. Simmonds Tyler, H. Wheeler Secretary, J. B. Cole P.M. Treasurer. Past Masters Bros. Smith, Crickmay, Lundie and Cole. The minutes of the previous Lodge were confirmed, and the various communications received were read. Bro. Sir Molyneux Hyde Nepean, Bart., of Loder's Court, Bridport, a subscribing member of St. Mary's Lodge, No. 707, was ballotted for as a joining member, on the proposition of the W.M., seconded by W. Bro. Crickmay P.M., and was unanimously elected. Bro. Charles Langford Oliver, of the Junior United Service Club, London, Esquire, who was raised in the All Souls' Lodge, 8th Feb. 1861, but did not join, was ballotted for as joining member, on the proposition of the W.M., seconded by W. Bro. Smith P.M., and was unanimously elected. Mr. Frederick Herbert Lushington Newell, of Chesilborough Rectory, near Crewkerne, a Lieutenant in the Dorset Militia, was ballotted for, on the proposition of Bro. Sly, seconded by Bro. Ireland, and was initiated by the W.M. The report of the Picture Committee was received and adopted. It was resolved that the bye law No. 1 be strictly carried out, and that the brethren meet and dine together on St. John the Evangelist's Day (24th June next). Two candidates for initiation at the next Lodge were then proposed and seconded.

Temple Lodge of Mark Master Masons, No. 173.—The bi-monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, the 14th inst., at the Green Dragon Tavern, Stepney. Bro. Charles Lacy W.M. in the chair. There were present Bros. T. Mortlock P.M. G.S.B., Cotter as S.W., E. Gottheil J.W., Marsh M.O., Defries as S.O., Moule J.O., Prestage acting as Secretary, Hollington R.M., Cundick S.D., Ross as I.G., Glackstein D.C., and a number of M.M. Masons. After the usual preliminaries, Bros. J. Constable, Brodie, Barnett and Kinnear, Master Masons, presenting themselves as candidates for advancement, and, having been duly vouched and ballotted for, were admitted in regular form. The quarries being closed, and the working plans deposited in a place of safety, the Craftsmen adjourned to refreshment, which consisted of an ample supply of cold collation, exceedingly well served, under the superintendence of Bro. Walters jun. In proceeding with the toasts, the W.M. took occasion to speak, in high terms, of the merits of Lord Limerick the M.W. Grand Master, whom he had had the pleasure of seeing installed into the chair of A.H. only a few days previous, and to whom the Temple Lodge had especial reason to be grateful, from the fact of his having selected one of its members, namely our Past Master Mortlock, as one of the Grand Officers. The honour thereby conferred could scarcely fail to be conducive to prosperity of the Lodge. Bro. Mortlock, who replied for the Grand Officers, observed that as he had only held his present exalted rank for a few days, he could not be expected to possess any great experience as a member of the Grand Lodge Officers, he assured the brethren, however, of his readiness to do his very best to promote the prosperity of an institution in which he took intense interest. Bro. John Constable responded for the advancees. In the course of his remarks, he descanted forcibly upon the importance of officers being well up to their work, without which the most beautiful ceremony, or impressive ritual, must necessarily become ineffectual for producing any desired or desirable impressions. Bro. J. K. Pitt, of the Macdonald Lodge, the only visitor present, expressed himself well pleased with all he had witnessed, and the very cordial reception accorded to him, and hoped to have many opportunities of repeating his visit. A very pleasant evening then terminated.

St. John's Lodge, No. 178.—The regular meeting was held on 11th of June, at Freemasons' Hall, Castle Street, Lisburn, Ireland. Present—Bros. John McBride P.M. as W.M., Mercer Rice P.M. as S.W., Arthur Mussen P.M. as J.W., William J. Gilliland S.D., Robert McComb P.M. J.D., William Wilson P.M. as I.G., James Stewart Tyler, John Higginson P.M. Secretary and Treasurer; P.M.'s Wm. Johnston I.P.M., Alexander Boyd, William J. Knox sen., James Pryde, S. J. Nelson, A. McClelland, Dr. Jefferson, and Wm. J. Knox jun. Visitor, Bro. Good 609. Business transacted:—Lodge opened in 1st degree, the minutes having been read and confirmed, Mr. J.

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Simpson was initiated by Bro. Higginson. The Lodge having been advanced to 2nd degree, Bro. Knox was passed to the degree of Fellow Craft, by Bro. Good. The Lodge was then resumed in 1st degree, when a committee was appointed to make arrangements for the annual dinner on St. John's Day. Several notices of motion having been given, the Lodge was closed in due form.

St. John Lodge, No. 191.—A meeting of this Lodge was held on the 9th inst., at the Knowsley Hotel, Bury. Present—Bros. G. A. O'Neil W.M., S. Hamer S.W., W. Balmer J.W., T. W. Probert S.D., W. E. Thornley J.D., A. Hopkinson I.G., H. Bates P.M. Tyler, Samuel Bailey P.M. Secretary, Andrew Milne P.M. Treasurer. Past Masters Bros. J. R. Fletcher, Fred. Anderton, F. Compton, J. Wright, and F. Dawson. Visitors—Bros. Arthur Allison, St. John Lodge, No. 90, London, J. B. Jackson P.M. 1012, and a tolerably strong muster of unofficial brethren. The Lodge was opened in the 1st degree, for the initiation of Mr. J. S. C. Yule, surgeon, for whom the ballot was unanimous. Bro. J. R. Fletcher delivered the charge. The Lodge having been opened to the 2nd degree, Bro. William Barritt was Crafted, by Bro. P.M. Bailey. The Lodge was subsequently closed to the 1st degree, and at this stage Bro. Anderton, P.M. Lodges 42 and 191, P. Prov. G.S.B. E.L. proposed that a letter of condolence be sent, in the name of the Lodge, to the bereaved parents of late Bro. Robert Wright O'Neil, W.M. of Lodge 1012, and D.C. of Lodge 191, who, along with Bro. Richard Battersby, S.D. 1012 (whose body has not yet been recovered), met with such an untimely fate in Morecambe Bay on the 20th ult. Bro. O'Neil (said Bro. Anderson) was not only a Mason in name, but in heart; and as it had pleased the Great Master to remove him from their midst, might they all venture to believe that "after life's fitful fever he sleeps well." Bro. Milne P.M. feelingly seconded the proposition, testifying that ever since the late Bro. O'Neil first saw the light of Freemasonry he (Bro. Milne) had always found him carrying out the three great fundamental principles of the Craft. The motion was passed, and the Worshipful Master, who is the deceased's elder brother, tendered his thanks for this expression of feeling on the part of the Lodge. Bro. Thos. W. Probert then moved that a letter of condolence be forwarded to the widow of late Bro. J. S. Redfern P.M. Lodge Relief, No. 42, and P. Prov. G.P. E.L. who died in an exceedingly unlooked for manner while returning from the interment of late Bro. O'Neil's remains at Bury Cemetery. He spoke in high terms of Bro. Redfern's services, and particularly referred to his dignified and impressive discharge of the duties of Installing Master of that Lodge, in which capacity he had been associated with it from a period when most of the brethren present were strangers to Masonic mysteries. The W.M. cordially seconded the motion, which was passed. Two initiation propositions were received, and the Lodge was closed down at half-past eight o'clock. Owing to the lamentable occurrences already reported, the usual repast and convivialities were for the nonce dispensed with. It ought to be stated that the Lodge room was placed in mourning.

Drogheda Lodge, No. 411.—At the regular meeting, held on 10th June, at Masonic Hall, Drogheda, there were present Bros. Jeffers W.M., Dean P.M. (S.W. pro tem), Flinn J.W., Glenny S.D., Griffin J.D., Parsons P.M. (I.G. pro tem), Browne Tyler, Clark P.M. H.K.T. Secretary and Treasurer, Past Masters R. Morton and Harbinson. Visitor—Bro. Harvey 85. Messrs. William George Percival and Edward Richard Bolton were initiated. Mr. Alfred Hamilton Ormsby was ballotted for and accepted. Private accounts of the Lodge were presented by the Treasurer. Festival Committee for St. John's day appointed. On motion of Bro. Secretary, seconded by Bro. Preston, it was carried that a Royal Arch Warrant be sought for. A committee to carry out this object, to report in October next, was appointed, as proposed by Bro. Secretary, seconded by Bro. Supple.

Faith Lodge, No. 581.—Monthly meeting held on 16th June 1875, at Drovers' Inn, Openshaw. Present:—Bros. Henry Moxon W.M., H. Derbyshire S.W., F. Hollins J.W., J. Bedford S.D., J. Parker P.M. D.C., J. Walker Steward, J. Ridgway I.G., C. Beswick Tyler, J. T. Richardson P.M. Secretary, Braddock I.P.M. Business transacted:—Lodge met at 7 p.m. Mr. J. Lloyd initiated by the W.M. who then, in consequence of having a bad sore throat, was compelled to leave the chair, when Bro. Lee Speakman was raised to the sublime degree by Bro. Braddock P.M. and Parker P.M.

Montefiore Lodge, No. 1017.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Wednesday, 16th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street. Bros. J. Grunebaum W.M., Blum S.W., A. Eskell P.M. as J.W., L. Jacobs Treasurer, E. P. Albert P.M. A.G.P. Secretary, Gulliford S.D., Albu J.D., Dr. Ring I.G.; Past Masters S. V. Abrahams, Pollitzer, J. De Solla, J. Lazarus, Blumenthal, and a very numerous assemblage of the brethren were present, it being the closing night, and also to witness the presentation of a testimonial to Bro. E. P. Albert, who had acted as honorary Secretary. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. Cooper and Handler were passed to the second degree, and Bros. Berliner and J. Blum were raised to the third degree. The W.M. then initiated Messrs. Sydney Smith and J. H. Crump. Bro. S. V. Abrahams P.M. then rose, and, in a feeling and eloquent manner, presented Bro. E. P. Albert P.M. honorary Secretary and A.G.P. with a very elegant emblasoned testimonial, on vellum, expressive of the regard and esteem he is held in by all the members of the Lodge, and also for the honour conferred on him, as a member of the Lodge, to have been selected as Assistant Grand Pursuivant, and associated with the name of one whom all classes revere, Sir Moses Montefiore, Bart., who now, at the age of ninety-one, is about to undertake a journey to the Holy Land, to alleviate the condition of his fellow men and co-religionists. He hoped he would be spared to return to his native country with a successful result of his mission. He, in the name of the Lodge, hoped that Brother E. P. Albert would enjoy the honours accorded to him, for he was one well deserving of them. (Cheers.) The testimonial is of very elegant and elaborate design, beautifully illuminated, with the arms of the founder artistically executed, under the direction of Bro. S. V. Abrahams P.M. Bro. E. P. Albert, in appropriate terms, returned thanks for the valuable presentation. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Café Royal, Air Street, Piccadilly, where a sumptuous banquet was provided by Bro. Nichol. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, Bro. E. P. Albert A.G.P. returning thanks for the Grand Officers. The toasts of the W.M., Wardens and Officers were given, and Bro. H. G. Buss P.G.T. Middlesex responded for the visitors, who were Bros. A. Pyke 218, Dispecker 73, Van Volen late 1017, Ichenstein 177, Renshaw 194, Weingott 15, and J. Blum. The W.M. provided a very capital concert, under the direction of Bro. Henri De Solla; A. Van Biene, the celebrated artist on the violoncello, and the Misses Da Chunna assisted.

Hervey Lodge, No. 1260.—The above Lodge met on Wednesday, the 9th instant, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, under the able presidency of Bro. Jabez Hogg P.G.D. P.M. and W.M., Bro. Southwood J.W., Hollingsworth S.D., S. Ward J.D., Mounsey I.G., G. King jun. P.M. Secretary, Darly P.M. Treasurer, Speight Tyler. Past Masters G. King sen., and Bros. Hooper, Czarnecki, Barley, Bigwood, Hodgkinson, Robins, English, Aitchison, Lowes, Mansell, Cox, Ryan, Foss and Spalding. Visitors—Bros. Rev. R. J. Simpson P.G.C., F. Phillips S.W. 1096, H. M. Levy P.M. 188, Dr. Lilley P.M. 69, Davis P.M. 960, Phillips J.W. 1096, and Western 1489. There was a great deal of business on the agenda paper, and the brethren met early. The Lodge was opened and the minutes confirmed. Bro. Hooper was raised to the third degree, through the courtesy of the W.M., by Bro. G. King jun. Bros. Cox, Mansell and Robins were passed, and Mr. William Hall, having been ballotted for and accepted, was then initiated into the Order. The ceremonies being very impressively delivered by the W.M. Bro. Jabez Hogg. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to Simpsons' Hotel, Strand, where a banquet was provided by Bro. Cathie. The W.M., who presided in his usual genial and happy manner, proposed the usual loyal, Masonic and routine toasts, and the brethren, after passing a very agreeable and harmonious evening, separated.

Asaph Chapter, No. 1319.—A warrant has been granted for the formation of this Chapter, which will hold its meetings early in the day, to enable members of the musical and theatrical professions to carry out the duties of Freemasonry, and yet not interfere with their professional engagements, an arrangement which has been found to work successfully in the parent Lodge. The Companions assembled on 13th June, at Freemasons' Hall, when Comp. R. Wentworth Little P.Z. occupied the chair as M.E.Z., E. S. Jones P.Z. as H, and Jas. Weaver P.Z. as J. The warrant having been read, Comp. R. W. Little P.Z. performed the ceremonies of consecration and installation in his usual perfect and impressive manner. Comps. E. S. Jones P.Z. M.E.Z., C. Coote sen. H, Jas. Weaver P.Z. J, J. Reed S.E., F. Burgess Treasurer, W. A. Tinney P.S., Gilbert Janitor. A vote of thanks and honorary membership were unanimously accorded to Comp. Robert Wentworth Little for the able and impressive manner in which he had performed the ceremony of consecration and installation. Several propositions for joining and exaltation having been made the Chapter was closed and the Companions separated.

Blackheath Lodge, No. 1320.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday last, at the Crown Hotel, Blackheath. There were present, Bros. E. W. Pook W.M., R. B. Webster S.W., Hubbock P.M. Treasurer, and Collington P.M. Secretary. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of the former meeting were read and confirmed. A Board of Installed Masters was then formed, and Bro. R. B. Webster, S.W. and W.M. Elect, was installed into the chair by Bro. Hubbock P.M. and Treasurer. The newly-installed W.M. then invested his officers, as follow:—Bros. Pook I.P.M., Trill S.W., Scard J.W., Hubbock P.M. Treasurer, Collington Sec., Turner S.D., Morson J.D., Perridge I.G., Jardine P.M. D.C., and Ryley Tyler. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a very capital banquet, provided by Bro. Coppinger. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, that of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.W.G.M. being received with great enthusiasm. The toast of the Pro Grand Master and the Grand Officers followed, and the W.M. stated that he, as well as every one present, was pleased to see a brother so high in the Craft, who had honoured them by his presence, that was Bro. S. Rawson, P.D.G.M. China, who, in responding, said he thanked the brethren for associating his name with the toast, and he was proud to see so respected a brother as the W.M. occupying the chair. (Cheers.) Bros. Captain Blakey and H. M. Levy P.M. 188 responded to the toast of the visitors. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the Installing Master, Bro. Hubbock P.M., Treasurer and P.G.S., who, since his connexion with the Lodge, had fulfilled every duty to their satisfaction. Bro. Pook I.P.M. then proposed the toast of the W.M., whom, he said, was a good Mason, and he was sure his year of office would be a success, for his only aim was the prosperity of the Lodge. The W.M. in brief but appropriate terms responded. The toast of the Past Masters was severally responded to by Bros. Collington, Pook and Hubbock, and the Wardens, Officers, and Tyler's toast concluded a very agreeable evening. Great credit is due to Bros. Bilreading and Read for their harmony, the former brother's recitations being listened to with great attention, owing to his artistic delineation.

Era Lodge, No. 1423.—A meeting of this Lodge was held on Saturday, 12th instant, at the Kings Arms Hotel, Hampton,

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There were present—Bros. J. W. Baldwin W.M., E. H. Thiellay S.W., J. T. Moss P.P.G.S. Middlesex P.M. as J.W., T. J. Sabine P.M. P.G.S. Middlesex Treasurer, F. Walters P.M. P.G.P. Middlesex Secretary, S. Wolff S D., E. W. Devereux J.D., Wright D.C. as I.G., W. A. Simmons W.S. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Mr. Harvey was initiated into the Order by the W.M. Bro. W. Hammond P.M. P.G.S. Middlesex was unanimously elected a joining member. Several propositions were handed in. The brethren then adjourned to banquet, when the usual toasts were proposed, both Loyal, Provincial and Masonic, after which the brethren separated.

Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, No. 1507.—A meeting was held at the Metropolitan Club, King's Cross, on Friday, 11th instant. Present:—Bros. Williams W.M., Kingham S.W., Side J.W., Shand S.D., Willing J.D., Cavet I.G., Adams P.G.P. Preceptor, Stiles Secretary, and Rapkin, Read, Ormiston and Scales. The Lodge was opened and minutes of last meeting confirmed. 1st section of 1st lecture was ably rehearsed by the brethren, under the direction of the W.M. 2nd and 3rd sections of 1st lecture, under direction of the Preceptor, also rehearsed. Ceremony of initiation rehearsed, Bro. Ormiston candidate. Bro. Scales examined and entrusted for passing, and withdrew. Lodge opened in 2nd degree, Bro. Scales passed to degree of F.C. Lodge resumed to 1st degree. Bro. Kingham S.W. was unanimously elected W.M. for ensuing meeting. Lodge closed in due form and perfect harmony.

IS MASONIC BURIAL HONORABLE?

(*From the* KEYSTONE.)

IS Masonic burial any longer honorable, or desirable? We are led to ask this question by the fact that *three* Past Grand Masters of Masons in Pennsylvania have, *by their own requests*, within a short time past been laid in their last resting places without the rites of the Craft. When examples of this kind are set by eminent Freemasons, it is not a matter of surprise that both Masons and non Masons should inquire: Is there any propriety in a Masonic burial? Is it an observance that is going into disuse? Had it ever any merit? Is it not an empty pageant and a vain mummery? Let us answer these questions, for they are important ones, and the sooner they are settled, the better it will be for the Fraternity.

The custom of Masonic burial is a time-honored one. At the same time it has never been voluntarily assumed by the Craft, but only at the request of the brother himself, prior to his death, or of his family after his decease. Just as in the matter of laying the corner-stones of public buildings, so in the burial of a brother—Freemasons never proffer their services, but only act in response to a positive request. The absence of such request, therefore, does not excite remark; but when prominent Craftsmen, who have been honored with the highest dignities in the gift of the Craft, expressly request that they shall not be buried with Masonic ceremonies, we may well wonder if these ceremonies are out of joint.

The burial of indigent brethren is always a matter of course, and has ever been so in the Fraternity. In Scotland, in the thirteenth century, the duty was even made imperative upon all incorporated companies, by legislative enactment; and this was one of the conditions upon which the Masons of Edinburgh held their charter. And in Germany, so Bro. Findel tells us, in his "History of Freemasonry," in A.D. 1459, the Constitutions of the German Masons of Strasburg required that all the Masters and Fellows of the Lodge, on the death of one of their number, should contribute to "a mass to be said for the repose of the soul of him who had departed." And Bro D. Murray Lyon, in his "Freemasonry in Scotland," mentions that it was the custom in the sixteenth century for Scottish Masons to "wear their aprons at the funerals of brethren." Whatever may have been the forms and display observed in the past, and whatever they may be now in other jurisdictions, in Pennsylvania, a Masonic funeral, like everything else Masonic, is performed in a plain, simple and unostentatious manner. The blue ribbon on the lapel of the coat, and the sprig of evergreen in the hand, are all the insignia of Masonry that we see on such an occasion in public. We think, rightly, that this is not a time for display, but only for sincere fraternal grief, and its manifestation in an unprofessional manner. Therefore it cannot be urged against a Masonic funeral that it is an empty pageant.

Neither is a Masonic funeral a holiday enjoyment, to which Craftsmen crowd from selfish motives. A large Masonic funeral is quite exceptional. There is far oftener only a corporal's guard than an army of followers on such an occasion. Freemasons are not a vulgar crowd, who love to air themselves by a ride through a cemetery. There are such crowds at almost every funeral, but they are not composed of Masons. Therefore there is nothing selfish about a Masonic funeral. Nor does it cost anything to the family of a deceased brother, for the Lodge always furnishes its own carriages, being glad to expend the requisite sum for the purpose of paying honor to the remains of a departed brother.

But is there any propriety or merit in the peculiar funeral ceremonies of the brotherhood? If simplicity of language, beauty of thought, the teaching of the sublime doctrine of the immortality of soul, constitute merit, then there *is* merit; and if the brevity of the ceremony, and the dignity of the actors, constitute propriety, then there is propriety.

But perhaps the custom is going into disuse—becoming antiquated? It has not done so as yet, but what may be the result, in case many more brethren who have been honored by a supreme position in the Craft, continue to ignore the Fraternity in their last hours, we are not prepared to say. Probably the aversion of age to anything that even savors of formality or display (which feeling often characterizes the aged) has something to do with such action; but there is no good ground for such aversion. As we have stated, and as every brother knows, the brotherhood is especially careful, in its funeral rites, to avoid every form of display. Freemasons do not, like the military, carry fire-arms to the grave, nor do they wear swords, nor are they rosetted, or aproned, or jeweled—they are dressed simply as gentlemen. In other jurisdictions it may be different, but this is the rule in the Masonic jurisdiction of Pennsylvania. And we trust that it always will be, for if there is anything that we deprecate, it is public Masonic display. Before the Masonic public, in the Lodge room, let our ceremonies be as effectively performed as possibly, but on the street, in secular halls, and at the grave, let our bearing be dignified, and distinguished by its *absence* of ceremony. Such a course shall preserve us from the world's familiarity, which breeds contempt, and should prevent any Brother's urging, with reason, the display incident to a Masonic funeral, as an excuse for ignoring the Fraternity at his death.

It has been frequently asserted that America produces the greatest advertisers of our day, and while admitting to a great extent the truth of this statement, still we find that we can point to several of our own countrymen who equal, if not surpass, the greatest of our transatlantic brethren as advertising giants. Perhaps the most enterprising advertiser of our time is Mr. F. J. Clarke, of Lincoln, proprietor of Clarke's world-famed Blood Mixture who must have expended several large fortunes in placing his now popular medicine before the world. True, he has been backed, in his Blood Mixture, by an article of wonderful efficacy; but there are few who possess the spirit, or rather *faith*, necessary to make a thoroughly successful advertiser. Within a few years only his Blood Mixture has become "world-famed," and his advertisements are to be seen in every newspaper and periodical throughout the world, and we notice, this week, as if to prove beyond question his belief in advertising—at the same time as effectually showing the acknowledged range of his medicine—a WHOLE PAGE advertisement in the three great London daily papers—*Daily Telegraph*, *Standard* and *Daily News*. This is certainly the most astonishing thing in advertising that we remember. Had the great Blood Mixture fallen into less enterprising hands the world might never have had the benefit of this wonderful medicine.

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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. I.—No. 26. SATURDAY, 26th JUNE 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

OUR FIRST VOLUME.

WITH this number we complete the first volume of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE. We naturally regard this event with some degree of pride and satisfaction, and now avail ourselves of the opportunity to address a few words to our readers with reference to our future policy and aims. We do not deny that our task has been a grave one. We have had to contend with the usual difficulties which invariably beset a new aspirant for the confidence and support of the public. Our brethren are not generally slow to appreciate the efforts of those who seek to advance the best interests of the Order, and we have to express our thanks for help which has been afforded, and for prompt official recognition of our claims to be considered an exponent of the opinions of the Craft. Hitherto we have not felt justified in unduly pressing THE CHRONICLE upon the attention of our brethren. We had determined at the outset of our career to allow the paper to push its way by virtue of its own intrinsic merits. We felt assured that if we were faithful to our mission our claims would not pass unrecognised or our labours remain without reward. We may say without egotism that the pledges which we gave in our preliminary address to the Fraternity have been religiously kept. We promised our brethren a journal of a high class, which should discuss the broad principles of the Order in a reverent and enlightened spirit. Our work is before the world, and we are content to be judged by it. Our brethren have had no occasion to be ashamed of us. If it were necessary we could refer to the high encomiums which we have received from distinguished Masons, who have generally appreciated our labours in the cause of the Order. These flattering testimonials, however, we shall not further dwell upon. We rather prefer to deal with this matter in a practical manner, and venture therefore to suggest that the time has now come when we can fairly claim a larger measure of substantial support than we have hitherto received. If the Order generally is really interested in the literary as well as in the practical aspect of Masonry, it should now come forward and aid us in the arduous task which is still before us. Masonry in this country has entered upon a brilliant epoch in its history, and a journal with the scope and aims of ours is absolutely necessary to meet the growing requirements of the Craft. In France and America the periodical literature of the Fraternity has been greatly developed in recent years, but in this country very little attention has been given to Masonic journalism. In the United States the vast and unprecedented growth of the Order is mainly to be attributed to the efforts of the admirable press organs which keep the doings of the brotherhood constantly before the eyes of the world. Here, however, a vague distrust of publicity is harboured by some of our brethren, who fear that Masonic journalism may do harm, by imprudent advocacy, or an unwise display of zeal. These fears we regard as wholly unfounded, and we do not think they are entertained by the highest dignitaries amongst us. It would be useless to deny that some of the existing press representatives of Masonry have not striven to maintain a high standard of literary or journalistic excellence. They have been content to exist on the mere dry bones of the Order, and have commonly passed by, as of no moment, the vast mass of Masonic lore which has been accumulated since the memorable revival of the Order in this country. We indeed fully appreciate the practical side of Masonry, and our pages show that we have kept pace with the demand for information of a purely practical nature. But we have justly, as we think, held that the literary, the antiquarian, and the speculative aspects of the Craft are worthy of a wider and fuller treatment than they have yet received at the hands of English periodical writers. Our labours in this wide field, we are glad to say, have been generally appreciated. We have endeavoured to show that the Fraternity is not merely based on the broad principles of Charity and Brotherhood, but that it rests likewise upon scientific and metaphysical truths that are as old as civilisation. Men of cultivated minds who think of seeking admission to our ranks naturally desire to be assured that Masonry is not what it has been described by its enemies—a mere eating and drinking society, with the brandy bottle as its most potent symbol, and a few "friendly toasts and sentiments" as its most cherished watchwords. As far as it has been possible in the pages of a newspaper, we have endeavoured to remove these erroneous impressions. We have defended the Craft alike from the shafts of sneering detractors, and from the heavy blows of enemies who are seeking to discredit its claims. We have crossed swords more than once with the skilled dialecticians of that Church which is so hostile to the Order, and we leave our readers to judge whether or not we have successfully met and refuted calumny and hostile argument. With reference to the future, we may say generally, that the principles which have guided us in the past will continue to influence our policy. We shall spare no pains to make THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE worthy of its name, and of the support of all good and true Masons. But, while aiming to make the paper worthy of the Order it aspires to represent, we shall be strengthened for our task, if we find that our friends adequately support us. English Masonry is, we are proud to say, at the head of the vast organisations which are scattered throughout the world. It is for English Masons to show that they are not insensible to the advantages which would accrue to the Order from the possession of an organ able adequately to represent it. They have accomplished grand and noble work in the past; we ask them to make an effort in the cause of Masonic literature. We have done our part of the work, it is for them now to do theirs.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

WE have received a copy of the report of this School for the past year, and save in one or two important points, we have nothing to say which is not of a congratulatory character. As it is better, perhaps, that we should deal with the disagreeables first, we shall draw attention to these matters forthwith, reserving till afterwards such other observations as we may feel it our duty to make.

First, then, as to the finances of the Institution. The year 1874 opened with a small balance in hand, amounting to £78 19s 11d. It closed with a balance on the wrong side of the account of £151 11s 4d. These are the figures. On the Receipt side:—opening balance, 1st January, as stated above £78 19s 11d; donations and subscriptions £9,222 12s 7d; annual grants by Grand Lodge £150, by Grand Chapter £10 10s, together £160 10s; sale of lists of subscribers £2 4s, donation—special to "Prize Fund"—£105, grant from Grand Chapter of £500 Consols—£465, together £572 4s, and musical fees £98 14s; total receipts £10,133 0s 6d. The per contra side of the account shows the following figures: Interest on advance £3 10s 7d

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and transfer to "Sustentation Fund" £500=£503 10s 7d; building account, including contractor for additional buildings, £1,757 19s 9d, together with engineer £82 3s 7d; Architect's commission £83 10s, and furniture and fittings £47 8s 6d=£1,970 16s 6d; special expenditure—annual grant to, and provincial travelling expenses of, Secretary, Collector's commission, examination fees, recreation for boys during holidays, gratuities to ditto on quitting school, gratuities to late Head Master and Chaplain, &c. &c.—£736 18s 5d; musical account—purchase of pianos, instructors, and music £216 13s 2d; framing presentation pictures £16 3s 6d; and ordinary expenditure—including general office expenses £959 10s 10d; salaries of establishment at Wood Green £943 6s 8d; wages of servants at ditto £342 16s; provisions £1,963 16s; clothing £1182 7s 6d; and household £1,448 12s 8d=£6,840 9s 8d. Total expenditure £10,284 11s 10d, leaving, as we have said, the account indebted to the extent of £151 11s 4d. We note, of course, among the items of this expenditure, that a sum of £500 has been transferred from the General to the Sustentation Fund, but, even allowing for this transfer, which, be it remarked, was absolutely necessary, it is unsatisfactory to find the Institution in debt, even to a comparatively insignificant extent. A more serious subject of regret is that, whereas in 1873 the donations and subscriptions amounted to £9,873 18s 7d, for 1874 they reach only £9,222 12s 7d, or, in round figures, are less by £650. These points we reserve for further comment. Our one other subject of regret is that changes in the *personnel* of the educational staff have again been deemed necessary. The report says: "Important changes have again taken place in the Instruction Department, including the resignation of the Head Master, the Assistant Masters having also been replaced by new appointments." Last year we were told: "A due regard for the important interests entrusted to their care, has forced upon the Committee the imperative necessity of introducing changes in the Educational department." Now the veriest tyro in such matters must be aware that no school can attain even a fair standard of excellence, in which there are frequent changes of masters and tutors, and especially of the head master. On him it depends entirely whether a wholesome state of discipline, and a high tone of conduct shall be maintained, not only among the boys, but also among the subordinate members of the staff. Different masters, moreover, have different methods of imparting instruction. All have the same end in view, but all employ not the same means to attain that end. It takes some time for the junior masters, as well as for the boys, to familiarise themselves with any new plan of instruction, and it is peculiarly unfortunate if, when this familiarity has been attained, a further change is deemed imperative. We feel assured the Committee will give these views their most anxious consideration, and that, in the new selection they are about to make, they will strive most earnestly to secure, as Head Master, a gentleman who is not only well qualified by his high educational attainments to fill so important an office, but one who will be likely to retain his position for many many years.

But to pass to other and more agreeable matters. The Sustentation Fund shows a balance at the bankers of £212 16s 2d, the receipts, including a balance from last year of £94 6s 11d, and the aforesaid transfer from the General Fund of £500, with sundry small items, being £609 3s 10d, while the expenditure, incurred mostly for repairs, there being also a sum laid out of £100 for relaying play ground with asphalte pavement, amounts only to £396 7s 8d. "The Fund for the advancement of Boys on leaving the Institution," shows a balance in Savings Bank of £10 4s 5d and the stock account, a balance, being profit estimated at £233 18s 6d .It is further gratifying to note that the average cost per boy is reduced from £45 1s 0d, in 1873, to £43 16s 11½d, being a decrease of £1 4s 0½d, three-fourths of which have been effected in respect of "office" expenditure. This is evidence that the Committee do their utmost to keep the expenses of management as low as possible. It is also gratifying to learn that of the eighteen candidates who went in for the Cambridge local examination, in December last, sixteen passed the test imposed, viz., two seniors, that is, above sixteen years of age, and fourteen juniors. As to the education afforded, this "comprises a sound English commercial education, with the addition of French and German, and in the upper the classics and advanced mathematics." Drawing also is taught, less "as an *accomplishment*" than "as a valuable assistance in after life." We note also with considerale pleasure that "similar considerations have induced the Committee, in conjunction with the Head Master, to determine on the introduction of vocal and instrumental music, and for this purpose a qualified instructor has been appointed." Here then is a course of education which meets the requirements of every class. Those who purpose following some industrial or commercial occupation will, if they have taken advantage of the training offered, be prepared to enter at once on the duties of some minor appointment. Those who desire to enter one of the learned professions, will find themselves sufficiently advanced in classics and mathematics to prosecute their studies, either privately, or in some such College as King's, or University, London, whence, ultimately, they may go to one of our Universities, and there, perchance, graduate with honours. A knowledge of French and German is now-a-days essential to almost every business man, and these may be acquired thoroughly, if a boy will only bring his mind to their study. Thus our Boys' School is quite on a par with the average collegiate or proprietary schools of the metropolis, a fact on which the Committee in particular and the Craft generally have every reason to congratulate themselves. It may not be out of place to add here, that the Canonbury Gold Medal, the gift of Bro. Edward Cox V.P., the recipient of which is elected by the votes of his schoolfellows, has been awarded to Richard Newton Carter, and the Silver Medal for good conduct, the gift of the Institution, to Francis Dalrymple Lane.

It now becomes our duty to revert to the financial side of the report. In doing this we shall deal with three facts, the accuracy of which is indisputable. These are the deficit of £150 on the past year; the falling off in donations and subscriptions, as compared with 1873, to the extent of £650; and the *entire absence of invested funds*. We should attach no material importance to the first of these facts if it came alone. The accounts include a sum of nearly £2,000 extraordinary expenditure, for additional buildings, and additional buildings will not always be needed. But the very considerable falling off in the donations and subscriptions is far more serious, for it betokens a culpable laxity on the part of the Craft in the fulfilment of one of its most sacred obligations—*charity*. Now, assuming there are 1,000 Lodges in England, with an aggregate membership of 60,000, and supposing each member contributes annually, say a lawyer's fee of six shillings and eightpence to each of our three Charities, that is, one pound sterling per annum for the three together, each of our institutions would be in the receipt annually from this source alone of £20,000, or, taking the lower sum of five shillings in each case, each of our Charities would receive £15,000 per annum. Is there any doubt as to the ability of English Freemasonry to achieve so light a task as this? If so, our case as submitted falls through; but we doubt if there is a single member in the whole body of English Masons who could not, by the exercise of a very little self-denial, contribute to the trifling extent we have suggested. We have once before quoted some remarks on this point by our late M.W.G.M. the Marquis of Ripon, made only last year, at the Annual Festival of this Institution, but they will bear re-quoting here. "What I want to impress upon you to-night is this, that it is far better that these institutions should be supported by small subscriptions, from large numbers, than that they should be supported by large subscriptions from a few. You who can subscribe and do not, have no right to say that the Boys' School is a credit to Freemasonry; it is a credit to its subscribers; it is no credit, but a discredit to those who do not subscribe." And again, "Do not let any brother be ashamed to give a small subscription! *A great many small subscriptions will in the end come*, as you well know, *to a great deal more than a few large ones*, and what you want is, that these Institutions should rest upon the widest possible basis." The words we have italicised fully bear out the hypothesis started out with, that if every member will contribute annually only six shillings and eight pence, or even five shillings, to each of our charities, the yield to each will very far exceed the aggregate of the present donations and subscriptions. It will be observed that we have omitted from our calculations the numerous Lodges in our Colonies and Dependencies which owe allegiance to the United Grand Lodge of England. We do not mean by this to ignore them, nor do we imagine our colonial brethren are in the slightest degree less ready to contribute than the members of our English Lodges. On the contrary, we feel assured of their readiness to fulfil their

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duty towards our common institutions. But to resume. An annual subscription from each member of only five shillings to each charity, means a certain income to each of £15,000. And what might not be done with this amount. The present ordinary expenditure of the Boys' School is in round figures £7,000, office expenses £1,000, extraordinary expenses, say on an average, and allowing for increasing accommodation, £1,500. There remain £5,500. Of this £3,500 might be invested, and bring grist to the mill in the shape of interest, while the other £2,000 would, even at £50 per head, allow an addition to be made to the school of *forty* boys. Let our English brethren, between now and the approaching Festival of the Boys' School, ponder on this simple fact, *an annual subscription of five shillings per English Freemason means* £15,000 *per annum*. The wealthy brother can still give, as he has given in past years, according to his wealth.

We make no apology for having dwelt so long on the claims of this Institution on Freemasonry; they are too self-evident to need one. We may add, in conclusion, that in Bro. Binckes the Boys' School has an advocate who possesses untiring zeal and energy; no amount of personal inconvenience ever steps between him and the fulfilment of his arduous duties. But Bro. Binckes is not even like Sir Boyle Roche's famous bird. He cannot be in two places at once, much less is he ubiquitous. Yet all that can be done he does, to promote the success of the institution with which he is associated. Nor, we feel convinced, will the Stewards elected for the coming Festival be wanting in energy. On the contrary, a feeling of honourable rivalry will no doubt excite in them a desire to outdo the efforts of their predecessors, successful as have been those efforts. What is needed is not more energy on the part of the Secretary and the Stewards, but that the bulk of the Fraternity should be more alive to its obligations. Is it too much to hope that, in these halcyon days of English Freemasonry, when our Order is becoming daily more and more numerous, and rising higher and higher in public estimation, the claims of our charities to increased support will be more fully recognised? We have every faith in the answer that will be given, if only the Craft generally will be more mindful of its duties.

THE LATE REV. GEORGE OLIVER, D.D.

WE feel that we owe no apology to our readers for bringing under their notice the eminent services which the late Dr. Oliver rendered to Masonry, and, if a comparison be possible under the circumstances, his still more eminent services in connection with Masonic literature. Few among us may hope to equal him even in his simple character of a just and upright Mason, while to approach him in knowledge of Masonic lore, or in his many able and eloquent expositions of the many beauties that adorn our symbolism—this, we trow, must be looked upon as well nigh impossible. Whatever the present or future ages may bring forth in the way of Masonic *littérateurs*, it is certain that most of them will owe the greater part of their knowledge, and, perhaps, all their enthusiasm to the influence of his fervent teachings. Many have risen, and will yet rise, to the same rank as he did. Let us hope that some may write, if not as ably and voluminously, at all events with the same admirable purpose in view. But the majority of Masons present and to come can only strive to imitate his virtues and draw inspiration from his works. That what we have said thus far is no mere figure of speech, let the following sketch of his honourable career bear witness. The facts have been culled from the Memoir, by the publisher, Bro. R. Spencer, prefixed to the new edition of Dr. Oliver's "Origin of the Royal Arch Order of Masonry, Historically Considered," which appeared within a very few weeks prior to his death in 1867.

The late Dr. George Oliver, descended of an ancient Scottish family of that name, was the eldest son of the Rev. Samuel Oliver, Rector of Lambley, Notts, and was born 5th November 1782. After attaining his majority, in 1803, he was appointed Second Master in Caistor Grammar School. In 1809, he became Head Master of Grimsby Grammar School. In 1813, he was ordained deacon, and took priest's orders the year following, when he was presented by Bishop Tomline to the living of Clee. In 1831, Bishop Kaye presented him to the living of Scopwick, and in 1834, the Dean of Windsor bestowed on him the Rectory of Wolverhampton, with a prebend's stall in the Collegiate Church in that town. In 1836, he graduated as D.D. In 1844, shortly after the Lincoln "Oliver Offering"—of which hereafter—he was presented to the Rectory of South Hykeham. At the age of seventy-two his voice began to fail him, and henceforth he lived in dignified retirement at Eastgate, Lincoln. He died, 3rd March 1867, full of years and honours, respected of all men, and beloved and esteemed by his friends and brethren.

As to his Masonic career, Dr. Oliver was initiated in 1801, in St. Peter's Lodge, Peterborough, by special dispensation from Grand Lodge, being passed and raised the year following. In 1803 he was congratulated as Mark Mason. Soon after his settlement at Grimsby, in 1809, he procured a warrant for the establishment of a Lodge—the Apollo—of which he was the first W.M., a position he held for fourteen years. In 1812, the honour was accorded him of laying the first stone of the Masonic Hall at Grimsby, a town where, previous to his residence, Masonry could hardly boast a single representative. In 1813, he was exalted a R.A. Mason in the Chapter attached to the Rodney Lodge, Kingston-on-Hull. In 1814—according to the learned doctor's own statement, in his speech acknowledging the Lincoln offering, in 1813—he served the office of Prov. Grand Steward. In 1815, he attained the Rose Croix, the 18th degree. In 1816, he was appointed Prov. Grand Chaplain by Prov. G.M. White. In 1833, Prov. G.M. D'Eyncourt selected him as his D.P.G.M. for Lincolnshire, and this office he held for nine years. In 1838, he became a joining member of the Witham Lodge, Lincoln, from the Apollo Lodge, Grimsby. In April 1841, he assisted in laying the foundation stone of the New Masonic Hall, Saltergate, Lincoln, and preached the sermon in St. Peter's Church, while in June of next year, he assisted at the dedication, and delivered an oration appropriate to the ceremony. "On this occasion were present Dr. Oliver's father, his son, and his son's sons—four generations of Masons in one family." Two years later he was chosen an honorary member of the Witham Lodge, and continued so till his death. In 1845, he became S.G.I.G. 33rd degree; in 1846, D.G.M. of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, by diploma, and in the same year, by patent, M.Ill. Lieut. G. Commander of the Supreme Council H.E., for England and Wales. In 1851, he rose by succession to be M.P. Sov. G. Commander of the said Supreme Council. At his death, a dispensation was at once granted by Bro. Smyth, D. Prov. G.M., for his interment with Masonic honours. Accordingly about ninety brethren followed the body to its last resting-place in St. Within's Cemetery. The order of procession being as follows:—

Two Tylers.
Visiting Brethren.
Witham Lodge.
Band.
Brethren out of Office.
The Deacons.
The Secretary with Roll.
The Treasurer.
The Senior and Junior Wardens.
The Prov. Grand Officers.
The Holy Writings.
The Grand Pursuivant.
Steward with wand. The Worshipful Master. Steward with wand.
The Officiating Clergyman.
The Body.
Mourners.
Two Stewards.
Tyler.

As an author, Dr. Oliver, very early in his Masonic career, set himself seriously and earnestly to the study of the science, and but a very few years elapsed ere his researches bore fruit. In 1820, he published his "Antiquities of Freemasonry." This was followed by "The Star in the East." In 1826, appeared "Signs and Symbols," and then his "History of Initiation." In 1829, he edited a new edition of Preston's "Illustrations of Masonry," and subsequently there appeared at divers times a series of most valuable treatises and lectures, of which we enumerate the following: "Historical Landmarks and other Evidences of Freemasonry Explained," in 2 vols; an edition in 5 volumes of the "Golden Remains of the Early Masonic Writers;" one of "Hutchinson's 'Spirit of Masonry;'" and one also of "Dr. Ashe's 'Masonic Manual;'" "History of Freemasonry from 1829 to 1841;" "A Mirror for the Johannite Masons;" "The Book of the Lodge, or Officer's Manual;" "The Institutes of Masonic Jurisprudence;" "The Theocratic Philosophy of Freemasonry;" "A

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Dictionary of Symbolical Masonry;" "The Symbol of Glory;" "The Revelations of a Square;" "The Freemasons' Treasury;" "An Apology for Freemasonry," "History of the Witham Lodge;" and "The Origin of the Royal Arch Order of Masonry." The preface to a new edition of this last work was written in the very year that he died (1867), and only a few weeks, therefore, before his demise. Nor must we omit to mention that in the catalogue of sale of Bro. R. Spencer's Collection of Works on Freemasonry to be disposed of by auction by Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson and Hodge, on the 27th July next, will be found several unpublished MSS. of the late Dr. Oliver's, among them "The Discrepancies of Freemasonry Examined," "Dissertation on the Grand Hermesian Anaglyph," "The Pythagorean Triangle," "A Lecture on the Various Rituals of Freemasonry, from the 10th Century to the Present Time." This bare enumeration of his principal works will afford no true conception of their value. The list will give us some idea of his unrivalled energy, but we must become familiar with the contents of the most important—of his "Landmarks" for instance, his "Star in the East," or his "Signs and Symbols," ere we can appreciate his true worth as a Masonic teacher. As an incitement to young Masons to learn what this eminent brother has done for our Order, we take leave to quote one or two opinions, expressed in reference to one or other of his works at the time they appeared, and likewise those of eminent members of the Craft, who were his contemporaries and friends. Thus, *a propos* of "The Symbol of Glory," *Bell's Messenger* writes to this effect: No member of the Masonic body has done more to advance the principles of the Order than the writer of this book, who has proved that this fraternal system is based on the noblest principles, and calculated when carried out according to its primeval intentions, to be the handmaid of true religion. We will not attempt to explain the object of this, the last, as we regret to hear, of the many excellent treatises which Dr. Oliver has written. This much, however, we must say; first that whoever reads it, be he a member of the mystic tie or not, will derive much pleasure from its researches, and a large amount of instruction." The *Gentleman's Magazine* describes the "History of Initiation" as "learned, curious, and ingenious," while of "Signs and Symbols" it says, "it is well written, and merits a place in every gentleman's library, whether he be a brother or not." The Freemason's Quarterly Review writes of "The Star in the East"—"Of all Dr. Oliver's works, we cannot but consider this is THE gem, contained in a casket of sterling value, of which the lock and key are of superior workmanship. The authorities which Dr. Oliver has brought, not so much in aid, as corroborative proof of his clear and undeniable truths, are placed in honourable position. It is impossible to offer any other opinion on the *Star in the East*, which we have read with a grateful sense of the obligation conferred on the Craft, than that it is a shining light, by which the apprentice, the Craftsman, the Master, and the *perfect* Master, may equally see their way." Of the same and another work, Bro. Spencer—to whose memoir we have already said we are indebted for the facts contained in this article—writes: "Such a work as the "Star in the East," when put in the hands of an uninitiated candid enquirer, has a marvellous effect. We have frequently tested it. We have lent them the above work, and almost invariably found that the perusal of it has had the effect of converting the former enemy into a friend, and not unfrequently into a candidate for initiation." So also his "Apology for the Free and Accepted Masons," has "induced the clergy, in a great many instances, to cease from their opposition, and to open their churches to our yearly gatherings." Here is the opinion of the late Dr. Crucefix, himself an eminent Mason. Writing in January 1842 to Bro. W.A. Nicholson P.G.S.W. for Lincolnshire, Dr. Crucefix describes the effect on himself of his earliest personal relations with Dr. Oliver, and refers to the many kindnesses he had received from the latter. He proceeds thus: "I am aware that the Witham Lodge has paid our friend a compliment,"—they had presented to him a handsome silver salver in 1839—"but I am morally assured that an expression of the Universal esteem in which he is held by the world of Masons will be regarded by him with feelings of justifiable pride; he cannot be unconscious of his own exalted merit. Lincolnshire, his homstead, should lead, London should adopt, and the world confirm the testimony of our Order to its most distinguished member, by the purest wreath that should grace the brow of the Freemason of all times . . . . There should be a provincial Committee in Lincoln to co-operate with a London Committee, and all foreign and district Grand Lodges should be addressed."

The proposal was carried out, and the testimonial took the shape of a magnificent cup and a service of plate, which were presented to him on 9th May 1844, and formed the "Oliver Offering," to which allusion has already been made. The formal presentation took place at the Witham Lodge, adjourned to the City Arms Hotel, in the presence of a considerable number of visiting brethren from Lincolnshire and the adjoining provinces, as well as from London, in addition to the members of the Lodge. As Dr. Oliver passed up the room, escorted by the Committee, all rose simultaneously, and greeted him with the heartiest enthusiasm. The cup and parts of the service were borne up to the dais by four P.M.'s, namely, Bros. W. H. Adams 339, W. A. Nicholson 374, Paahley 611, and Dr. Barton 612, preceded by Bro, R. Goodacre P.M. 347 and A.G.D.C. for the province. Bro. Goodacre having formally delivered the testimonial to the chairman, the latter, (the Rev. J. Osmond Dakeyne) addressed Dr. Oliver at considerable length. In the course of his remarks he offered an apology for Masonry, and concluded "These facts"—certain to which he had alluded—"and, above all *these books*"—Dr. Oliver's Works "have set our Order in its true light. And who wrote these books? Our friend and brother and guest, whom we are now assembled to honour! They are the witnesses to his exertions, they are the vouchers for his services. Our Brother Goodacre has aptly alluded to the spreading of Masonry in the East, and, indeed, over the world. Wherever our principles have gone, thither also has passed the name of Dr. Oliver, the historian and the sage of Masonry; and contributions to this offering from the distant climes prove in some measure that his labours are not unrecognised." Dr. Oliver replied most feelingly to this kind address, sketching his Masonic career at some length, and concluding with these words, "I have told you how I began, I have told you how I continued—I have no occasion to tell you—for you all know too well—how I ended. There are many brethren present whom, it is highly probable, I may never see again in this world. But there is another and a better. There, I trust, we shall all meet, never to part again. There, amidst the Masons of Heaven's High Arch, we may practice our system of universal love, and rejoice in the blessings of unadulterated Masonry for ever and ever! Brethren, farewell, and may God be with you all."

The following is a translation of the inscription on the Cup:—

To GEORGE OLIVER,
Doctor in Divinity and Fellow of the Society of Antiquarians,
Edinburgh.
Vicar of Scopwick, Incumbent of Wolverhampton,
Lately in the County of Lincoln
Of Freemasons
Deputy Grand Master,
Also of the Witham Lodge, 374, a member and Chaplain,
A Philosopher and Archæologian
Second to None,
In Historical subjects most learned,
An Orator, whether in the Church or in our Councils,
Both in knowledge and in eloquence most excellent,
Of the Mystic Union,
Founded in Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth,
For forty years the most Erudite Expositor,
A Brother of Reverence unceasingly most worthy:
The Brethren throughout the whole surface of the earth,
Celebrating the rites of Freemasons;
For the sake both of Honour and of Love,
Have given this
Offering.

A.D. 1844. A.L. 5843.

Comment on a career so grand, yet so simple, so energetic, and so successful in its labours, were needless. It tells its own tale. The best conclusion we can offer to such a sketch, is the earnest hope, "*O si sic omnes!*"

DEDICATION OF THE NEW MASONIC TEMPLE, NEW YORK.

ALL accounts are agreed that the recent Dedication of the new Masonic Temple at New York, to which we briefly referred last week, was one of the grandest and most impressive ceremonials which modern Masonry has ever witnessed. In one respect it differed from the

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ceremony attending the late Installation of the Prince of Wales as M.W.G.M. of England. On the latter occasion there was no public procession, no public display of Masonic emblems. The brethren found their way to the Royal Albert Hall in the manner most convenient to themselves. Once there, and proved, they arrayed themselves in the Masonic clothing to which their rank in the Order entitled them, and found their way, as noiselessly as possible, to the places assigned to them. But in New York a grand procession of over 25,000 of the Craft marched in serried ranks through some of the leading thoroughfares of the city, and naturally enough there were tens of thousands assembled all along the line of march to witness so imposing a spectacle. At 8 a.m. the brethren fell in; at 9 the firing of three guns in rapid succession was the signal for the head of the column to move. There were in all twenty-six divisions, of these the first seven were Templars, in their bravest apparel, with banners waving and plumes nodding. The eighth division comprised the Supreme Council, Ancient and Accepted Rite, Grand Chapter, &c., together with aged and infirm brethren, all in carriages. Divisions nine to twenty-five, both inclusive, were composed of Blue or Craft Lodges, while the twenty-sixth division, before whom all the others filed past in review, was confined wholly to the Grand Lodge of New York State, headed by R.W. Charles Roome, Grand Marshal, and his aids. Every division had its band—in some cases more than one—and the van and rear of the whole consisted of platoons of mounted police. From a few minutes after the hour appointed, till past two o'clock, the processional part of the pageant lasted, and then the several divisions having been dismissed, the Grand Lodge and brethren invited to be present entered the Temple, and the more important ceremony of the day commenced. M.W. Elwood E. Thorne, preceded by Grand Marshal Roome, took his place on the throne, and while the brethren were seating themselves, and the visitors were paying their respects to the G.M., first a number of pieces were played on the organ, at which Bro. George W. Morgan presided, and then followed a selection from "I Martiri," for orchestra, organ, and chorus, under the direction of Bro. P. S. Gilmore. The Reverend J. P. Webster, one of the Grand Chaplains, then offered up an appropriate prayer, which was followed by sacred music, including a Grand Masonic Hymn for baritone and full chorus:—

Thou who art God alone,
Accept, before Thy throne,
Our fervent prayer.
To fill with light and grace
This house, Thy dwelling place,
And bless Thy chosen race.
O God, draw near.

As through the universe,
All nature's works, diverse,
Thy praise accord,
Let faith upon us shine,
And charity combine
With hope, to make us Thine,
Jehovah, Lord!

Spirit of truth and love,
Descending from above,
Our hearts inflame,
Till Masonry's control,
Shall bind in one the whole,
A temple of the soul,
To Thy Great name!

The Grand Master next addressed Grand Lodge briefly, but in most eloquent terms, justly laying great stress on the fact that the Hall "is not so much for the convenience and comfort of our working, in the ordinary acceptation of the word, as it is for the benefit of the aged and needy brother, the destitute widow, and orphans of our household." Deputy G.M. James W. Husted then advanced, and, on behalf of the trustees of the Hall and Asylum Fund, requested the G.M. to "Dedicate and set apart this Hall to the uses of the most ancient and honourable fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, and its revenues to the endowment and perpetual maintenance of our system, for the relief of the poor, oppressed, and distressed of the Brotherhood." The architect and master builder, Bros. N. Le Brun and John T. Conover, having been formally presented, a procession was formed by Grand Marshal Roome, in the following order:—

Grand Pursuivant and Grand Tyler, with Drawn Swords,
Grand Sword Bearer, with the Sword of State,
Grand Standard Bearer,
Four Past Masters, with Great Lights,
Four Past Masters, bearing the Ark,
Grand Chaplains,
Senior Grand Deacon, Junior Grand Deacon,
Grand Lecturer, Grand Librarian,
District Deputy Grand Masters, two abreast,
Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer,
Grand Junior Warden, with Vessel of Corn,
Grand Senior Warden, with Vessel of Wine,
Deputy Grand Master, with Vessel of Oil,
Two Grand Stewards, with Rods Crossed,
The Grand Master,
Grand Steward, Rod Erect, Grand Steward, Rod Erect.

The procession having moved slowly round the Lodge, returned to the dais, when R.W. Bro. Rev. R. L. Schoonmaker, Grand Chaplain, offered the Consecration prayer. The usual form of service was then performed, and Bro. M.W. John L. Lewis, D.G.M., delivered the dedicatory address. This is too long to give *in extenso*, but one or two passages are worth quoting. Thus, as to the time when the first decisive steps were resolved upon, and the proposed scheme for building the Hall was settled, Bro. Lewis said:—

"It was on the 7th day of June 1843 that the first decisive and finally successful step was taken. On that day a memorial was presented in Grand Lodge, praying that measures might be taken for the creation of a fund for the purpose of erecting a Masonic Hall and Asylum. This memorial was subscribed by 100 brethren, each of whom pledged himself to pay the sum of 300 dols., and a continuous annual contribution. For ever honoured be their names and memories by all, and they should be inscribed the first and highest upon the sacred roll of honour."

As to the first dollar subscribed, Bro. Lewis narrated the following:—

"It has been said that an humble brother, of limited means, and dependent upon his daily labours for his daily bread, inaugurated this enterprise, by laying a silver dollar upon the altar, as the first gift to the Hall and Asylum Fund of the Grand Lodge of New York. If this be so, deaf must be our ears, mute our voices, and deadened our hearts to every generous emotion, if we do not, on this day of jubilee, pronounce the name of Greenfield Pole, of the City of New York, then Grand Tyler, as the first true-hearted donor of that which equals the widow's mite, since expanded into thousands upon thousands of dollars."

Comparing Masonry now with its condition a quarter of a century ago, the orator remarked:—

"At the period denoted there were about 100 Lodges in the State, with a membership not exceeding 15,000, including the large number of unaffiliated within their range; to-day there are about 700 Lodges, with a registered membership of over 87,000. Then there were differences among the Masons of our State, as to the question of regularity and jurisdiction; to-day there is cordial and unbroken union."

As to the scope and aim of Masonry, the justice of Bro. Lewis's observations is to be commended. "With questions of State, or the administration of governments, and with religious sects or their peculiar creeds, our institution in its sphere of duty has no part or lot. Tolerance to all and bias towards none are its cardinal principles of belief and action; leaving every brother free to act according to the dictates of his own conscience, only requiring him to be loyal to his country, true to his fellow-men, and obedience to his God. But we are deeply concerned in that which affects the character and stability of Governments, and the peace and purity of Churches, in their effects upon the happiness of mankind. The advocates of peace, we have avowed before high heaven that the sword shall not devour for ever; that toleration shall be the practice, as it is the rule in this free land, and that art and science shall receive that protection and encouragement which they so eminently require in their struggles with a worldly spirit."

After a few closing sentences, in which the orator fervently besought the blessing of the G.A.O.T.U. upon the solemn labours of the day, the Grand Master directed the Grand Marshal to make proclamation, in South, West, and East, as follows:—

"In the presence of the Supreme Architect of the Universe, whose unnumbered blessings we humbly acknowledge; by Order of the M.W. Elwood E. Thorne, Grand Master of Masons; under the auspices of the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York, and the

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brethren owing it fealty and allegiance, I declare this new Masonic Hall dedicated."

Some congratulatory telegrams were then read, and Grand Lodge was then closed.

The architecture of the Grand Lodge room is "Roman Ionic, with a double row of columns, which add much to the embellishment of the room, and there is a seating capacity of about 1,200." The throne is "in the Pompeian style, and is fifteen feet high; it rests on two winged lions, and the canopy over the throne is supported by Ionic pilasters. The whole is carved in black walnut, and upholstered with blue velvet." In the corridor of Grand Lodge room is a panel, bearing the following inscription :—

THE CORNER STONE
of this
Masonic Temple
Was Laid
June 8, A.L. 5870, A.D. 1870
by the
M.W. JAMES GIBSON G.M.
assisted by
John H. Anthon, D.G.M.; Christopher C.
Fox S.G.W.; Edmund S. Judson,
J.G.W.; John W. Simons, G.T.
James M. Austin, G.S.
and
this Edifice was
Dedicated
June 2, A.L. 5875, A.D. 1875,
by the
M.W. ELWOOD E. THORNE, G.M.
assisted by
James W. Husted, D.G.M.; Jesse B.
Anthony, S.G.W.; Levi M. Gano,
J.G.W.; John W. Simons, G.T.;
James M. Austin, G.S.;
Building Committee :—
John J. Crane, Charles Roome,
John T. Conover, Charles D. Brown,
Zachariah Dederick.
Architect
Napoleon Le Brun.

Among the many eminent Masons present at the dedication, Bro. Albert G. Mackey, the great Masonic writer, was perhaps the most eminent, while the object in the procession which most attracted attention, and which was the greatest source of pride to the Fraternity, was the Bible on which the illustrious Bro. General George Washington had taken his oath of office.

Grand Lodge afterwards held a banquet in honour of this great event. Of this Delmonico had the supreme direction; so that those of our readers who are acquainted with New York City may draw the conclusion that everything was in harmony with the occasion. Other banquets were held generally throughout the city, all the New York Lodges devoting themselves most cordially to the fraternal duties of hospitality. Among these, the most conspicuous was that held in the Great Hall of the Tammany Society, where the Manhattan Commandery of New York, No. 3 entertained the most prominent Southern Commanderies, covers being laid for nearly 800.

Proud, indeed, must be our brethren of New York State of the grand success which has marked the Dedication of their new Masonic Temple. Right heartily and fraternally do we congratulate them, and we trust most sincerely the G.A.O.T.U. may speed them well in their future course, whether as Masons or in the ordinary business of life.

THE CASE OF THE RETIRING MASTER OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

THE D P.G.M. West Yorkshire, the receipt of whose Report to the Yorkshire Vice Presidents of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys we acknowledged last week, will, we feel assured, excuse us if we decline plunging into matters controversial. Doubtless he will recognise how imperative it is we should avoid anything that can be construed into partisanship. He is, of course, aware that his statement is nevertheless an *ex parte* one. The case as submitted on behalf of the Rev. O. G. D. Perrott, the retiring Head Master, may be true, but its truth has not yet been proved. There is the counter case yet to be heard, before judgment can be pronounced. Two points there are, however, on which we feel that we may express our opinion. 1. The rule which places the supreme power in the hands of the Head Master, is both just and necessary. If he is to be of any service to the school over which he presides in name, a real absolute power over the whole school establishment—of course within the limits of his prerogative—must be vested in him. He is responsible to the Committee who appoint him, but to them only. All others are subordinate to him, and it would only be a bare act of justice if the Committee suspended or, in a very flagrant case, summarily dismissed any inferior officer who should wilfully break this law. We fear the case of Dr. Hayman at Rugby is already bearing fruit. 2. We think, on further reflection, the D.P.G.M. will agree with us, that his remarks at p. 14, as to the expenditure and management of the school, are uncalled for. Nor is he just towards the Secretary, who he thinks might do the duties of clerk or collector as well as his own, and "consider himself well paid into the bargain." Few men work harder than Bro. Binckes. The greater part of what, with other men, is leisure time is, in his case, devoted to advocating, in our Lodges, the cause of the School. That he is a painstaking, obliging, and successful Secretary, is matter of notoriety throughout the Craft. To depreciate the work which Bro. Binckes does, and, indirectly, the labours of the Committee, in whose name he acts, must damage, rather than improve, the case of Mr. Perrott.

Since writing the above, we have received a communication from Bro. Binckes, with a request that it may be inserted in our columns. As we have not thought it worth while to print Bro. Tew's Report, it is needless to insert Bro. Binckes's explanation. No doubt many of our readers, who are interested in the controversy, will be able to obtain copies of Bro. Tew's Report and Bro. Binckes's Letter on application to these gentlemen.

"AN OLIVER SCHOLARSHIP."

DR. Ace's letter, which we published last week, contains a suggestion which is well worthy of consideration. The £200 raised for an Oliver Memorial, together with a further £200 recently voted by the Pro. G. Lodge of Lincolnshire, or, together, £400, form an excellent nucleus for an Oliver Scholarship, and we trust the hope is not ill-founded that such additional contributions may be forthcoming as will make the memorial worthy of the Order of which Dr. Oliver was so great an ornament. The objection that Dr. Ace's scheme would raise a poor lad out of his sphere is, to say the least, frivolous. Some of our most eminent men—the late Lord St. Leonards is a case in point—have raised themselves into a sphere far above that in which they were born. Many a poor student by the aid of the scholarship or exhibition, which his early talents enabled him to win, has passed with the highest honours through one or other of our universities, and attained eminence in one of the learned professions. But should there be an insufficiency of means to endow an "Oliver Scholarship" at Oxford or Cambridge, "Oliver Medals," or "Oliver Prizes" might be established at our two schools. Taking the present sum contributed of £400, this at 5 per cent. will yield £20, which is sufficient to endow two prizes—either a gold medal or books—of £5 each, given at each of the Masonic Schools. One of them might be given for "general conduct," and the other for "general proficiency" in the subjects taught. The name of Dr. Oliver and his connection with our Order would thus be perpetuated, in a manner worthy both of his high character as a man and of his great learning as exemplified in his Masonic writings. Dr. Ace's scheme shall have our warmest support.

A ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION FOR SCOTLAND.

IN one of our earliest numbers we drew attention to an appeal by Bro. Geo. R. Harriott, Prov. G.M. of Wigton and Kirkcudbright, in which he urged on our Scottish brethren the necessity for establishing a Benevolent Institution, that should combine the objects of our three English Masonic charities. Captain Harriott, indeed, is the promoter and originator of the scheme he so strenuously advocates. We rejoice to hear that there is every likelihood that the proposal will meet with that measure of success which it deserves. Among those whose support has been promised we may mention Bros. W. C. H. Bickerton and Captain Shanks for Glasgow and Renfrewshire; Bro. D. Murray Lyon, Ayrshire; Bros. Dr. W. Cowan and

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J. Young, Perthshire; Bros. G. H. Pagan LL.D., Fifeshire; Bros. Col. Acheson and Alex. Henry, Dundee; Bros. Beveridge M.D., Capt. C. Leith Hay, and W. E. Grandfelt, Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire; Bros. G. Laurie G. Sec., Major Ramsay, H. D. Copland, G. Murray, and J. B. Douglas, Edinburgh, together with all whose assistance had been already promised. Others there are, too, in the Colonies, who are both able and willing to work, and whose services may prove invaluable. All we can say—may the scheme prosper. Its object is worthy of the support of the whole Craft in Scotland, and we, as far as lies in our power, will do our best to further the project.

REVIEWS.

All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, 67 Barbican, E.C.

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Record of the Installation of Bro. Lieut.-Col. Sir Henry Edward, Bart., D.L., J.P., P.M. No. 61, Probity, as Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of the Province of West Yorkshire, at Halifax, 21st April A.L. 5875. Also the Installation of His Royal Highness Albert Edward Prince of Wales, as Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of Antient, Free and Accepted Masons of England, at the Royal Albert Hall, South Kensington, London, on Wednesday, the 28th April A.L. 5875. Edited by Thomas William Tew J.P., P.M. No. 910, and D.P.G.M. of West Yorkshire. Dedicated by permission to Sir Henry Edwards. Pontefract: R. Holmes, Printer, Market Place, 1875.

The events of which this pamphlet is the record are among the most important that have occurred, of late years, in English Freemasonry. One, indeed, cannot be surpassed in the annals of all Masonry. There may have been greater gatherings, as at the dedication of the Masonic Hall in Philadelphia, and at that of the New Masonic Temple New York, on which we comment elsewhere, but the ceremonial in the Albert Hall stands alone, and far above all other Masonic ceremonials. Nor is the election of Sir Henry Edwards to the Prov. Grand Mastership of Yorkshire without its significance. It was of this province that our late M.W.G.M., the Marquis of Ripon, was G.M. It is a large and important province, with 59 Lodges, and an aggregate membership of 2,885. Yorkshire, too, is foremost among our provinces in its support of our Charities. It is quite natural then that our Yorkshire brethren should desire to possess some lasting record of the last election, and as that of the Prince of Wales followed so closely upon the heels of the former, it was equally natural that members should desire an account of the Royal Albert Hall to be embodied in the same pamphlet. We do not think the task could have been entrusted to better hands. Bro. Tew has faithfully completed his task of compilation. Taking the most trustworthy accounts he could obtain, he has extracted from them a plain and lucid narration of the two Installations. The narrative, in fact, is eminently readable, and the facts are marshalled in their proper sequence, so that no confusion can possibly arise as to the character or regularity of the proceedings. It is needless, of course, for us to select any evidence in support of these statements, for we should only be reproducing what, in another form, has already appeared in these colums. Nor need we say more as to Bro. Tew's task. He has done his work well, and we feel sure he will reap the only reward to which he aspires: the thanks, not of Yorkshire brethren only, but of the Craft generally.

The Masonic Review for June (Cincinnati, Ohio) opens with an article from the pen of the Editor, entitled "A Stupid Atheist," Mr. Charles Bradlaugh as a Freemason being the text. We quite agree with the editorial comments. Assuming that Mr. Bradlaugh has been regularly initiated—a question we shall certainly never trouble ourselves to discuss—it was in France, not in England, that the mistake occurred; such, at least, is the current story. English Freemasonry is free from the taint of having admitted "a stupid atheist." We respectfully object, however, to Mr. Bradlaugh being set down by the Editor as a "distinguished" Englishman. He may be a "notorious" one, in a not over complimentary sense, but that is all. A most valuable item in this Review is a "Masonic Bibliography," by Bro. Enoch T. Carson. This appears to be very carefully compiled, and cannot fail to be of the utmost value to Masonic students and writers. We trust that, when completed, this Bibliography will be published in a connected form. From the "Editorial Department" we extract the following note:—

"Hughan and Norton.—It is a mistake to couple these brethren in an attempt to ignore the age and traditions of Masonry. Norton is a kind of Arab,—his "hand against every man" who deems Masonry older than 1717; while Hughan is a scholar, a historian, a man of extensive reading and research. He has done more to develope the true history of the Order than any man who ever wrote on the subject. He has spent years in the examination of old documents and ancient records, and proves beyond a doubt that speculative Masonry was practised long anterior to 1717. That he should discover changes in our rituals, forms, ceremonies, etc., is not strange; it would be strange if there had been no changes. In the long lapse of centuries, among so many nationalities, and worked in so many various languages, it would be a miracle if Masonry had not been modified. And when we remember that the landmarks and essentials are few, and the largest portion of our verbal ceremonies are of modern growth, we ought to rejoice that we have it as pure and unchanged as we have. No, no; never couple the names of Hughan and Norton as engaged in a crusade against the life and truths of Masonry."

CORRESPONDENCE.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

—:o:—

AN OLIVER SCHOLARSHIP.

To the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle.

28a Great Queen Street,
22nd June 1875.

Dear Sir and Brother,—I trust the noble initiative of the Rev. Bro. Daniel Ace, D.D. (one who is never weary in well-doing) will speedily awaken the response it deserves. An University Masonic Scholarship will be worthy alike of the Fraternity, and of the memory of Dr. Oliver.

I have already had the honour to contribute to the Oliver Memorial Fund, but now that it expands into so appropriate and honourable a project, I feel double satisfaction in offering another Five Pounds for the purpose.

Your obedient servant,
Richard Spencer,
Past Grand Steward.

REPORTS OF LODGE PROCEEDINGS.

To the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle.

Queen's Hotel, Cardiff.

Dear Sir and Brother,—It is surprising in these enlightened days, how frequently old Acts of Parliament, bye-laws, and other matters crop up to disturb the even tenour of our way.

I was rather taken by surprise at a discussion I heard last week, in a Lodge far from here, in connection with a circular received from your office, soliciting that reports of the Lodge be forwarded for your paper.

It appeared to me that the W.M. and P.M.'s were as well read in the Book of Constitutions as they were good workers, for they not only rendered the first section of the lecture in a beautiful manner, but pointed out, in the Book of Constitutions, that no member of a Lodge was empowered to send a report to any paper of the proceedings of any Lodge without permission of Grand Lodge, or Past Grand Master; consequently, it was unanimously voted that no report could be sent, and I regret from such a cause that I cannot give further publicity to the evening's proceedings, but hope that some brethren of Grand Lodge may see this letter, that such a clause, although no doubt useful at the time it was made, may be brought before its members for their opinion, under existing circumstances.

I remain,
Yours fraternally,
M. M. M.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.

To the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle.

Sir and Brother,—Attentive consideration of the conclusions drawn by the Masonic historian, "Dr. Findel," from his investigations, suggests to me the following reflections.

The German Steinmetzen may have changed the signification of what they inherited from the Roman Collegia, but the English Freemasons have undoubtedly preserved it. There seems no possibility of our having taken the customs of the Steinmetzen for models, we must have inherited them from elsewhere. The ideal of the English Freemason was evidently independent of that of his brethren of Strasbourg or elsewhere in Germany. The connecting link for us would be the annual assembly at York and the Athelstan Charter, and the open question remains:—Is the former unfounded tradition and the latter a lie? I believe not, and hope to see full evidence for my belief before long. Dr. Findel does not admit the possibility of links for us, because his theory denies all our connection with antiquity.

One cause of the vitality of old formulæ and symbols in Masonry, may be pointed out. The Dionysiacs threw off travelling branches, the Pythagoreans did so too; stray initiates from the East must have been ever turning up wherever (in the West as elsewhere) branches existed. These stray brethren from the fountain-head would powerfully aid the maintenance of the old traditions. Thus, with the survival of the similar Druidical mysteries, travelling Roman initiates would amalgamate; evenso wandering Steinmetzen, and Syrian artificers brought back in the wake of the Crusades.

In the bosom of the Masonic Associations originated the "Platonic Academy" of Florence, in 1780, the "Company of the Trowel," in 1512, and the Famosissima Campagnia della Lesina at Venice, in 1600, all having for object the reformation of morals, by the practice of speculative Masonry.

I would not seem to underrate the labours and the critical acumen of Dr. Findel, though I cannot follow to his conclusions; one passage on page 22 of his "History" opens a loophole through which his theory must ebb away, he there admits:—"Several Roman authors and some monumental inscriptions furnish undeniable proofs that these associations of artists and artizans, continued among the Romans for a considerable period. That they were in Gaul and Brittany is beyond a doubt, and that a *certain* connection existed between them and the building corporations of later date can scarcely be disputed."

I am now to discussions on this subject, though I have attentively perused the matter of your pages; I am not controversially disposed, but have derived decided impressions, which I have much pleasure in placing at your service, should you think them worthy of a place.

Yours, &c.,
Sevenoaks, Kent, 21st June 1875. Brunclp.

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THE THEATRES, &c.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.—This evening, LE NOZZE DI FIGARO. On Monday, LOHENGRIN. On Tuesday, ROMEO E GIULIETTA. On Wednesday, L'AFRICAINE. On Thursday, LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR. On Friday, FRA DIAVOLO. At 8.30 each evening.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA, DRURY LANE.—This evening, LA TRAVIATA. On Monday, SEMIRAMIDE. On Tuesday, MIGNON. On Thursday, LOHENGRIN, at 8.30 each evening, except on Thursday, when the Opera will commence at 8.0. On Monday morning, at 2.30, and Friday evening, at 8.30, HAMLET. On Wednesday evening, at 8.30, OTHELLO.

HAYMARKET.—At 7.30, A FAIR ENCOUNTER, DAVID GARRICK, and A REGULAR FIX (last night of the season). On Monday, BRIGHTON and the ZOO.

ADELPHI.—At 6.45, PAINLESS DENTISTRY, NICHOLAS NICKLEBY and FUN IN A FOG. On Monday, BENEFIT of Mr. CLARKE.

PRINCESS'S.—At 7.15, HEARTSEASE. At 9.15, ROUND THE WORLD IN EIGHTY DAYS. Last night.

LYCEUM.—At 6.30, FISH OUT OF WATER. At 7.45, HAMLET. On Saturday, a morning performance at 2.30 only. Tuesday next, last time.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.30, FAMILY JARS, and THE TICKET OF LEAVE MAN.

STRAND.—At 7.30, AN EARNEST APPEAL. At 8.0, WEAK WOMAN and PATIENT PENELOPE.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 8.0, MONEY.

GAIETY.—At 8.0, FRENCH OPERA.

GLOBE.—At 7.0, EAST LYNNE and BLUE BEARD. (Last Nights.)

ST. JAMES'S.—At 7.30, A PRACTICAL MAN. At 8.30, TOM COBB.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG, OUR BOYS and A FEARFUL FOG.

CHARING CROSS.—At 8.0, A CURE FOR THE FIDGETS. At 8.40 CATTARINA. 10.45, THE MAGILTONS.

MIRROR.—At 7.0, NAVAL ENGAGEMENTS. At 8.15, THE DETECTIVE.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, THE ARTFUL DODGE and CHILPERIC.

CRITERION.—At 8.0, GIROFLE-GIROFLA.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—This Day, ROSE SHOW, CLANCARTY, Annual Fête of the German Gymnastic Society. On Tuesday, FIREWORK DISPLAY. NATIONAL MUSIC MEETINGS, July 1st to 10th. Open daily. AQUARIUM, PICTURE GALLERY, &c.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.—This day, ITALIAN CONCERT. On Monday, TROTTING HANDICAP. On Tuesday, GRAND CONCERT. Open daily. HENGLER'S CIRCUS, &c.

POLYTECHNIC.—THE MAGICIAN AND THE GENII, with a NEW GHOST Scene.—ARCTIC EXPEDITIONS, Past and Present.—THE BESSEMER BOAT.—FOOD from AFAR, and ECONOMICAL COOKING.—JANE CONQUEST.—THE MECHANICAL LEOTARD.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, and many other Entertainments. Open twice daily, at 13.0 and 7.0. Admission, 1s.

EGYPTIAN (LARGE) HALL.—Dr. Lynn at 3.0. Dr. DE BUATIER, at 8.0.

EGYPTIAN HALL.—MASKELYNE AND COOKE, at 3.0 and 8.0.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL, Langham Place.—Mr. and Mrs. GERMAN REED, at 8.0. Thursday and Saturday, at 3.0 only.

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67 BARBICAN, E.C.

OUR WEEKLY REVIEW.

THE week in Parliament has been one, for the most part, of sheer hard work. Early and late sittings are the rule now, and will be so, we presume, to the end of the Session. But still more might be done if motions that can lead to no legislative action, at all events this Session, were dropped out of the "Orders of the Day." On Friday, in the House of Lords, Lord Oranmore and Browne drew the attention of the House to the subject of Irish Education. After a tolerably long discussion, the subject dropped. The Matrimonial Causes and Marriage Law (Ireland) Bill was withdrawn. The Bishopric of St. Albans Bill passed through Committee, and other measures were advanced a stage. The greater part of Monday's sitting was occupied in considering whether Messrs. Moody and Sankey should be allowed to hold a meeting at Eton, for the benefit of Eton scholars, but after a solemn debate, this subject also dropped. On Tuesday there was only a short sitting, at which several measures were read a third time and passed. On Thursday, the second reading of the Canada Copyright Bill was proposed by Lord Carnarvon, and carried. The Pollution of Rivers Bill, the dimensions of which, as Lord Salisbury pointed out, have been considerably reduced, likewise passed its second reading. Other Bills having been advanced a stage, the House adjourned a little after seven o'clock.

In the Commons, on Friday, the Committee on the Merchant Shipping Acts Amendment Bill was resumed at the morning sitting. But slow progress was made, the discussion being renewed on clause 9, and clause 12 had not been agreed to when the Chairman reported progress, and the House resumed. In the evening Mr. R. Yorke, in a long and able speech, drew the attention of the House to the present condition of Turkey, and moved for certain correspondence relative to certain conditions agreed to between the English and Turkish Governments in 1856. The debate occupied the whole sitting, and was, in the end, negatived, Mr. Under-Secretary Bourke, on behalf of the Government, resisting the motion. Further, and, indeed, considerable progress was made in Committee, on Monday, with the Merchant Shipping Acts Amendment Bill, various

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clauses, up to 20, being discussed and agreed to, sundry amendments being accepted by the Government. Much valuable time was wasted at the morning sitting on Tuesday by discussing arrangements for the conduct of business during the rest of the Session, the debate on the subject being ultimately adjourned. In Committee, sundry amendments to the Friendly Societies Bill were discussed, the Bill, as amended, being in the end agreed to, and ordered to be reported. At the evening sitting, Mr. Hanbury Tracey introduced the subject of Heavy Guns, but nothing came of it beyond "ventilation." On Wednesday afternoon the discussion related to the Contagious Diseases Acts Repeal Bill, which was rejected, on the second reading, by 308 to 126. On Thursday, Mr. Disraeli addressed the House at considerable length on the adjourned debate as to the Business of the House. Several others followed, among them being the Marquis of Hartington. The premier then moved the second reading of the Agricultural Holdings Bill. A long debate ensued, and in the end the motion was agreed to. After passing the Friendly Societies Bill through its last stage, the House adjourned.

Her Majesty returned to Windsor Castle from Balmoral on Saturday morning. On Monday she received His Highness the Sultan of Zanzibar, who, from all accounts, appears to have been highly gratified with the gracious reception he met with. The Queen had previously been present at the inspection of the Royal Horse Guards in Windsor Great Park, by Major-General Sir Thomas M'Mahon, to whom H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught acted as Brigade-Major on the occasion. On Saturday there was a grand ball at the Russian Embassy, at which the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, and other members of the royal family were present. The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh start next week on a visit to St. Petersburgh, *en route* Copenhagen, at which they will rest a few days.

The Sultan of Zanzibar appears to be turning his visit here to excellent account. On Friday last he visited the Post Office, over a part of which he was conducted by Lord John Manners and Mr. Scudamore. That which most attracted His Highness's attention was the working of the Electric Telegraph, and when answers to questions addressed to Zanzibar were received almost instantaneously; it may be imagined the Sultan was quite as astonished as the Persian. On Saturday he visited the Crystal Palace. Here a special programme was provided, and, as a matter of course, there was a grand display of fireworks, which likewise appears to have astonished him. On Monday he was received in State by the Queen. On Wednesday he was present at the State Concert, held by command of Her Majesty, at Buckingham Palace, their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, surrounded by several members of the Royal family, receiving their distinguished guest, the Queen of the Netherlands being also present. Of other places, he has visited the "Zoo," St. Thomas's Hospital, Her Majesty's, Drury Lane, the Mansion House, where he was entertained by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, the Bank of England, the Mint, &c. &c.

At the Alexandra Palace each succeeding week brings with it some new entertainment, and visitors seem to be increasingly pleased with the energy of the directors. The Rose Show on Thursday and yesterday, with an exhibition to-day of roses and other plants in pots, being the principal event of this week. Thursday being a half-crown day, the attendance was select rather than numerous, but doubtless we shall hear of a grand success yesterday and to-day. On Monday there was a grand display of fireworks, and this drew a large concourse of people. On Monday there is to be a trotting match, and on Saturday next the first day of the Royal Dramatic College Fête. We doubt not this will be one of the most successful gatherings of the season. Many will go, if only to see what a live actor is like in mufti.

In the world of sport, cricket has been, as a matter of course, in full swing, and several interesting matches have been played. Cambridge has been beaten by the M.C.C. and Ground, and the result of the Oxford *v.* same club bids fair to be similar. On Monday, the Universities play their annual match at Lord's, where, as usual, there will be an immense gathering of enthusiastic 'Varsity men, past and present. A special interest attaches to the contest this year. Each University has won the same number of games. Who, then, will win?—there's the rub. The chief aquatic events have been the Royal Cinque Ports Regatta at Dover, from Saturday to Wednesday, and the Royal Henley Regatta on Wednesday and Thursday. The most noticeable feature on the former day was the First Heat for the Grand Challenge Cup. Three eights entered, Leander, stroked by Goldie, ex-Cantab, with six other old University oars behind; London, stroked by Gulston; and Thames by Hastie. The first-named won, being three yards clear of Thames, second, London a third of a length behind. On Thursday the final resulted in the victory of Leander, for the first time these five-and-twenty years; Mousley, B.C. and First Trinity, Cambridge, being the other competitors. London Rowing Club won the Thames Challenge Cup. Herbert and Chillingworth, of the Ino Club, carried off the Silver Goblets. A. C. Dicker easily won the Diamond Sculls. Oxford U.B.C. beat Dublin Trinity B.C., second, for the Visitors' Challenge Cup. Thames won the Wyfold Cup; London the Stewards' Challenge Cup, while Dublin were loudly cheered for their victory over First Trinity, Cambridge. The weather was unusually fine, and the attendance large.

The collections on Hospital Sunday appear, thus far, to have reached somewhat over £20,000, but there are still a great number of lists outstanding. While, as the day was wet, the Lord Mayor has kindly consented to receive subscriptions from those whom the unfavourable state of the weather prevented from attending church. We trust the amount subscribed this year will not fall short of expectation. London Hospitals do good work, and deserve to be liberally supported by the public.

The most sensational event of the week has been the appearance of Messrs. Moody and Sankey at Eton. The spot originally selected for their address was changed at the last moment, and the address was delivered in a private garden, several Etonians and some of the tutors being present. Nothing unusual occurred, so that the hubbub created by the public discussion in the daily papers and in Parliament, as well as the protest of sundry M.P.'s, would appear to have been unnecessary. But while we have no wish to question the good intentions of those American Revivalists, we question very much the good taste of the whole proceedings. Their proper sphere of action is among the lowest classes, who sadly need more light, not among those who are already most carefully tended as regards religious instruction. We regard this as merely another illustration that Messrs. Moody and Sankey, and their assistants, exercise far more zeal than they do discretion.

We have received a copy of the Prospectus of the Victoria Park Swimming Club, which this year has entered on its second season. The President is Mr. John Holms, M.P., the Vice-President Mr. Geo. Croxton, and the Secretary Bro. T. Hadley Prestage, of 531 Hackney Road. Among its many distinguished patrons are included Lord George Hamilton, M.P., Mr. O. E. Cooper, M.P., Mr. Fawcett, M.P., Mr. J. Samuda, M.P., Mr. C. T. Ritchie, M.P., Sir Sidney H. Waterlow, Bart., M.P., Sir John Bennett, Sir Antonio Brady, Alderman Lawrence, Sir Charles Reed, and Messrs. E. H. Currie, J. H. Heeps, and John MacGregor. Last year the Club held several successful meetings, the most noteworthy being the opening day, and the Bank Holiday on 3rd August. On the latter occasion twenty-one prizes, given by Mr. E. H. Currie, were swum for by boys under 14 years of age. The great object of this Club is to extend, as far as possible, what may almost be described, in the case of Englishmen, as the indispensable art of swimming. Not that swimming is an ordinary accomplishment in this island of ours, but every one ought to be taught to swim, and a Club which, like the Victoria Park Swimming Club, holds out every encouragement to people to learn, deserves to be liberally supported.

The Summer meeting of the London Athletic Club came off last Saturday, the attendance being far larger than usual, and reaching nearly 5,000. The chief events of the day were the quarter mile and mile. The former resolved itself into a contest between Elborough and Griffin, the former of whom won in 51¼ seconds. In the mile, Slade accomplished the shortest time on record, namely 4 minutes 24½ seconds. At the conclusion of the sports a testimonial was presented to W. Sydenham Dixon, for his long service on behalf of the London Athletic Club and other clubs, as Handicapper. Among other athletics, Polo has been pretty prominent; last Saturday there was a match at the Hurlingham Club Ground, between the Scots Greys and the 5th Lancers, the former winning by three games out of four. The Hurlingham Club then played the Monmouthshire team, and were victorious by three games to

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one. On Wednesday the Life Guards played against the Horse Guards, and were so evenly matched that neither side proved superior to its opponents, each scoring a goal. To-day the 12th Lancers play the Blues, on the same ground. At Lillie Bridge, on Tuesday, the Polo Club and Monmouthshire had a hard and exciting tussle. The Club obtained the first goal, and the next was captured by the Monmouthshire. In the third struggle, the play was very even, and it was only when both men and ponies were exhausted that the match was pronounced a draw.

We have not had much to boast of in the way of seasonable weather till within the last few days, but though certain of the usual evidences of summer have been wanting as yet, one sign of the time of year is forthcoming. Our various public schools are holding their speech-days and prize-meetings, and these are followed, as a matter of course, by the summer holidays. The other day it was Merchant Taylors', who held their first speech-day in the new schools, opened for them in April last by the Prince of Wales. On the 18th instant, the anniversary of Waterloo, Wellington College followed suit, and, since then, St. Paul's, which had its "apposition" on Wednesday, when the friends of the boys mustered in strong force. The Bishop of Llandaff, Bishop Claughton, Dr. Vaughan, and others, were present to do honour to the occasion; the ladies, however, as regards numbers, were in the ascendant. The distribution of prizes at our own school is not very distant; indeed, in the course of a few weeks, there will be an end, for some time, at least, to the declension of *Dominus*, who, we hope, will have recovered his strength by the end of his rest. The chief subject of discussion amongst the youngsters till schools re-assemble will, doubtless, be for the most part *fruitful* of satisfaction to those interested.

Messrs. Alderman Knight and Mr. Deputy Breffit were elected Sheriffs for the ensuing year on Thursday. Mr. John Jones, as usual, created infinite amusement among those present by his urgent mode of delivery respecting the rights of the living. Mr. Benjamin Scott was re-elected Chamberlain.

Abroad, politics remain pretty much in *statu quo*. In the Russian journals there is a discussion being carried on as to an Anglo-Russian alliance, being among the eventualities of the future. In the French Assembly General du Temple was the cause of a tremendous scene, by his attacks all round, and especially on Marshal McMahon. So great was the commotion that the General was voted out of the Tribune—a most unusual proceeding, amounting, in fact, to a vote of censure. The excitement has since, we hear, calmed down. There are rumours of more fighting in Spain, but which of the two parties, Carlists or Alphonsists, has gained the victory seems doubtful.

The Regular Meeting of the Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls was held on Thursday, the 24th inst., Bro. H. Browse P.G.D. in the chair. Bro. Little, Secretary, read the minutes of the former meeting, which were confirmed. Bro. Major Creaton P.G.D. proposed that Miss Davis be re-instated in her former position as Head Governess, which was unanimously confirmed, the lady who had been selected gracefully returning to her former position. It was then announced that on the next election there were 30 candidates to be placed on the list, but only 6 to be elected, while one was to be admitted on purchase. The report of the House Committee was read, and the meeting adjourned to the following month.

In another part of our columns we call attention to the fact that, so far, the claim to the Masonic Patriarchy rests with Bro. John Millward, now of the Phœnix Lodge, of St. Ann, Brixton. He was initiated December 1810, took his Master Mason and Royal Arch degrees 6th February 1812, in the Love and Friendship, Macclesfield. Bro. John Millward is now 84 years of age, and we hope he may yet live many years to enjoy his honours.

The Grand Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday, the 23rd inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Bro. J. Nunn P.G.S.B. in the chair. Bro. J. Hervey G.S. read the minutes of the former meeting, which were confirmed. Grants were confirmed from the last meeting, amounting to £170, and twenty-three new cases were relieved, and sums amounting to £350 were granted. The Grand Lodge of Benevolence was then closed. Among those present were Bros. S. Rawson P.D.G.M. China, W. Smith, J. Clabon P.G.D., J. Ross, J. Brett, H. Dicketts, H. Garrod, H. Massey, J. M. Stedwell, C. Hogard, S. Hickman, J. Smith, H. W. Hemsworth, Webster, Jardine, A. C. Burrell, W. Mann, Crick, J. Diprose, H. Bartlett, H. M. Levy, J. Hervey G.S., H. G. Buss, Pendlebury, J. Stephens, &c.

A very graceful act was performed at the Mansion House, on Wednesday, when, at the special invitation of the Lady Mayoress, the whole of the pupils of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls were invited to luncheon. The pupils, accompanied by Miss Davis and Miss Jarwood, were received by her ladyship in the State Rooms, and afterwards proceeded to the Long Parlour, where an elegant repast was served, after which a tour was made over the Mansion House, and, at parting, the Lady Mayoress presented each of the Girls with a work basket filled with sweets, as a souvenir of their visit.

Bro. M. Syers, the proprietor of the Oxford, having been refused permission by the Lord Chamberlain to hold morning performances, commencing at 2 o'clock, a special Act of Parliament was passed, and has now received the royal assent, whereby morning performances can commence at 12 o'clock at noon. A numerous and respectable audience met on Saturday last, to witness a capital entertainment, under the direction of Bro. Jennings. These morning performances will be held every Saturday morning, commencing at 2, and closing at 5 o'clock. The ordinary performances will take place as usual at 7 o'clock.

Mr. E. M. Lott, Fellow of the College of Organists, and Organist of St. Peter's, gave an evening concert on Thursday, 17th instant, at the Victoria Hall, Archer Street, Bayswater, which was in every respect a success. The artistes engaged acquitted themselves admirably. Bro. Geo. Fox sang the air from the "Lily of Killarney" very sweetly. Miss Edith Shield sang "Le Partate d'Amor" and "Esmeralda" charmingly. Miss Sophie Ferrari sang the songs of "My Angel Lassie" and "The Fairy Wedding" with great effect. Mr. Frank Vernon sang one of Molley's songs artistically, and Madame Talbot Cherar delighted the audience with her celebrated song "The Nightingale's Trill," composed by Bro. Ganz P.G.O. She subsequently, in conjunction with the before-mentioned artistes, in the quartette of "Honour and Glory," composed by Bro. Sir Michael Costa, met with deserved applause. Messrs. Sidney Naylor and C. E. Stevens acted as conductors. Mr. E. Lott exhibited great ability as a soloist.

The account for erecting and fitting the new Masonic Temple at New York presents the following figures:—Total receipts to 1st May 1875, 1,098,682 dollars 76 cents. The payments being as follows:—Real Estate, 340,000 dollars; furnishing and setting granite, 254,901 dollars 75 cents.; masons' material and labour, 187,952 dollars 18 cents.; iron work, 96,400 dollars; architect, 23,900 dollars; architectural iron works, 45,638 dollars 15 cents.; carpenters' work, 33,000; heating apparatus, 26,631 dollars 96 cents.; furnishing 32,791 dollars 7 cents.; for interest on bonds and accounts, taxes, leases, water assessments, printing, &c., &c., 147,172 dollars 74 cents. The revenues from rents paid by 91 Lodges amount to 35,000 dollars, while stores and Grand Lodge, at present, pay a rental of 14,700 dollars.

On the occasion of the late Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, which was presided over by the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, the Board of Stewards had a Balance in hand of Thirty Guineas. It was unanimously voted that it should be given for the purpose of defraying the expenses of a day's holiday for the girls. This holiday will take place at the Crystal Palace on Tuesday next, the 29th inst., and it is to be hoped that a numerous assemblage of the brethren and ladies will be present. A cold collation and tea will be provided, tickets 3s 6d, which can be obtained of Bro. R.W. Little, Freemasons' Hall. Trains will leave Clapham Junction at 9.42 a.m.

We learn, from the Cape of Good Hope, that the funeral of our late Bro. Sir Christoffel Josephus Brand, Ex-Speaker of the House of Assembly, who was buried with Masonic honours, was most imposing, the funeral procession extending nearly a mile in length. Our late brother was very generally respected, both in the Colony and by his colleagues.

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GRAND LODGE OF DEVON.

A Special Provincial Grand Lodge of the Masons of Devon and the Annual Meeting of the Provincial Grand Chapter of the R.A. Masons of the Province was held on Wednesday, 23rd June, at the Huyshe Masonic Temple, Princess Place, Plymouth. Business commenced at 10.30 a.m., when the Committee of Petitions for the Province assembled. R.W. Bro. L. P. Metham P.G.D. D.P.G.M., the chairman of the committee, presided. The various Lodges of the Province were well represented. The petitions received were read and discussed. £5 was voted towards the support of the aged widow of a brother for forty-three years a subscribing member to Lodge Harmony 156, and a recommendation to advise her continued support by the Provincial Lodge, instead of endeavouring to get her elected an annuitant on the charities, was favourably received, on account of her great age. £5 was voted towards the present support and education of the orphan daughter of a brother, late member of Bedford Lodge 282; and a similar sum was voted towards assisting in supporting a Bro. of Lodge St. George 112, rendered helpless through an attack of paralysis. A letter of thanks was read from the widow of a Bro., expressing her gratitude for the committee having secured her election as an annuitant on the Masonic Fund for the Relief of Widows, at the recent election. This closed the business of the committee.

The special meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge was to have been opened at eleven a.m., but through the arrival of the P.G.M. and other brethren having been delayed by the accident that occurred on the South Devon Railway, business did not commence until near noon. The P.G.M. (the Rev. John Huyshe M.A. Past G.C.) presided, supported by R.W. Bro. L. P. Metham P.G.D. of England D.P.G.M.; V.W. Bros. Colonel John Elliott P.G.S.W. *pro tem*; I. Latimer P.G.J.W., and a large muster of officers.

The business of this special meeting was the Constitution and Consecration of the new Lodge "Prudence," No. 1550, to be held at the Huyshe Temple, Princess Place, Plymouth. This Lodge is the pioneer of some new arrangements in connection with Masonic working in Devon. Its principal promoters—Bros. R. G. Bird and J. P. Rogers—contemplated the convenience of brethren who are business men. All the other Lodges in Plymouth hold their meetings earlier in the week, and it was thought that to the class of brethren referred to Friday would be more suitable. The Grand Lodge having been opened, the P.G. Secretary announced that the W.M. and members of the Prudence Lodge desired to be constituted and consecrated in ancient form. He then read the warrant for opening the Lodge, granted by the Most Worshipful Grand Master of England, Albert Edward Prince of Wales. The Past Grand Master then called up the brethren of the New Lodge to signify their assent to the officers placed over them by the warrant, which was given.

The following is a list of the officers with which the Lodge was opened:—Bros. R. G. Bird W.M., J. T. Avery S.W., J. P. Rogers J.W., J. J. Avery Treasurer, J. B. Gover Secretary, W. Whittley Chaplain, B. Westcott S.D., J. G. Keverne J.D., F. Bond I.G., W. Garland D.C., C. Philip A.D.C., G. H. Emery O., R. R. Pengelly S.S., W. B. Hambley J.S., T. Smith Tyler.

R.W. Bro. L. P. Metham, the D.P.G.M., delivered an eloquent oration, after which the Master and members of the new Lodge were pledged to obey the laws and constitutions of the Grand Lodge. The P.G. Master then declared the "Prudence" Lodge, No. 1550, to be a regular and constituted Lodge. The ceremony of consecration followed. At its close the P.G. Master delivered the final benediction, and the P.G. Lodge was closed. The correct working of the new Lodge by its officers during the proceedings were much admired; and the installation of Bro. R. G. Bird as the W.M. for the ensuing year took place subsequently in an adjoining room.

The meeting of the Provincial Grand Chapter was opened at 1.30 p.m. The chairs were filled as follow:—The Provincial Grand Superintendent, the Rev. John Huyshe M.A. Past G.J.Z.; Ex-Comps. L. P. Metham H.; W. G. Rogers J.; W. T. Maynard P.S.; R. H. Rae 1st A.; J. Baxter 2nd A.; W. K. Mitchell G.D.C.

The P.G. Chapter was opened in ancient and solemn form. The minutes of the last P.G. Chapter, held at Teignmouth, 30th October 1873, were read and confirmed. The constitution and consecration of the Huyshe Chapter, No. 1099, to be held at the Masonic Hall, Home Park, Stoke, was the next business. In reply to the P.G.Z., the members of the new Chapter signified their approval of the officers named in the charter:—Ex-Comps. J. Brown Z., W. H. Gillman H., T. H. Blackell J. The P.G. Superintendent stated that at that late hour no oration would be given by P.G.H. The major part, if not all, of the Comps. present had heard the able one he had just delivered in the P. Grand Lodge, and he prayed them to give it their earnest attention. The three principals, officers, and brethren of the Huyshe Chapter were then presented, and the P.G.Z. declared the Chapter duly constituted. The consecration of the new Chapter followed. Comps. G. H. Emery and T. Goodall, with an efficient choir, rendered the musical services with great taste and ability. At the close of the consecration the ordinary business of the P.G. Chapter was next considered. The report of the Treasurer, which showed a balance in hand of £53, was read and confirmed. Ex-Comp. W. Joll was elected P.G. Treasurer, and Ex-Comps. J. Harris and T. W. Bayly Auditors for the ensuing year. Fifteen guineas were voted to the Masonic Boys' School, and entrusted to Comp. J. E. Curtois as a Steward for that charity, ten guineas were voted to the Masonic Girls' School, twenty guineas to the Fortescue Annuitant Fund, ten guineas to the Royal Female Orphan Asylum, and two guineas to the Masonic bed at the Royal Albert Hospital. The P.G. Superintendent appointed the following officers for the ensuing year:—Ex-Comps. L. P. Metham H., Captain J. W. Keyworth J., W. G. Rogers S.E., J. N. Burden S.N., J. P. Phillips P.S., S. Willoughby 1st Ass., Dr. Woodgates G. Reg., R. B. Twose D.C., C. Godtschalke Gt.B., G. H. Emery G.O.

In the evening the members of the Huyshe Chapter and the Prudence Lodge, with several other Companions and brethren, in all a large party, dined together at the Globe Hotel, Ex-Comps. the Rev. J. Huyshe, L. P. Metham, W. G. Rogers, the P.G. Principals, presided, supported in the vice chairs by Ex-Comp. J. Brown, the P.Z. of the new Chapter, and Bro. R. G. Bird, the W.M. of the new Lodge.

MEMORIAL FOUNTAIN AT WORMHILL TO JAMES BRINDLEY, THE ENGINEER.

ON Friday, the 18th June, the officers and members of the Phœnix Lodge of St. Ann, of Buxton, with several brethren from other Lodges, met at Wormhill, by the kind invitation of Brother the Rev. A. A. Bagshawe, Vicar of Wormhill, and Rural Dean, to assist in laying the foundation stone of a fountain to the memory of James Brindley, the eminent engineer, who was born in the parish, at Tunstead, about a mile from Wormhill. The plans shows a very elegant stone structure for the springs near the centre of the village, and which, in the most droughty summers, were never known to fail. The architect is Bro. Robert Griggs, of Gray's Inn-square, London, and the fountain is expected to be finished and opened for the use of the village, about the end of July. The following brethren were present on the occasion:—Bros. Wm. Smith W.M., E. C. Milligan S.W., E. J. Sykes J.W., A. J. Harrison D.D. Chaplain; Wm. Boughen Treasurer; A. Barnett Secretary, J. H. Lawson S.D., Jos. Whalley Superintendent of Works, Charles Adams D.C., George Marsden Organist, W. Goodwin I.G., George Goodwin Steward, C. Gwinnell Steward, Frederick Turner P.M. P.G.S.D., Robt. R. Duke P. M., Josiah Taylor I.P.M. P.G.S.B., Augustus A. Bagshawe P.M. P.P.S.G.W. P.P.G. Chaplain. *Members:* J. M. Cranswick, W. H. Newton, Charles Wilkinson, G. F. Barnard, J. C. Bates, Samuel Taylor, Thos. Griffiths, W. Millward, James C. Hyde, J. G Meggison.

The following brethren from other Lodges were also present:—Bro. Robt. Bramwell (Peveril of the Peak Lodge) J.W. No. 654, George Shaysles (Clifton Lodge, Blackpool) J.W. 703, S. W. Ready (Peveril of the Peak) P.M. 654, John Cockshott (Concord) W.M. 343, Thos. Roper (St. John's Wigton) P.P.S.W. for Cumberland, Jno. Cumyn (Commercial Lodge) 411, P.P.S.W. for Notts, Jno. D. Simpson (Peveril of the Peak) 654, John Yarker (Integrity, Manchester) P.M., R. H. Holt (Peveril of the Peak) 654, Joseph Wright (Peveril of the Peak) S.W. 654, &c.

The Lodge, adjourned from the last regular Lodge night, met, under a dispensation from Bro. Okeover D.P.G.M., in the School-room, Wormhill, the foundation stone of which was laid with similar honours in 1871, and after opening in the first degree, the brethren formed in due order, and proceeded to the site of the proposed fountain, where Bro. Wm. Smith W.M. laid the foundation stone, assisted by Bros. E. C. Milligan S.W., E. J. Sykes J.W., J. Simpson, &c., and after the position of the stone had been tested by the various tools with which an operative mason completes his work, Brother Smith declared the stone properly laid, newspapers and coins having previously been deposited beneath it. The symbolical corn was sprinkled, and wine and oil were poured upon the surface with the usual ceremonies. Brother the Rev. A. J. Harrison D.D. Chaplain, then delivered a very able biographical address on Brindley, which appeared to interest all present. "God save the Queen" was then sung, and the brethren returned to the school-room, and the Lodge was closed. From these pleasant labours the brethren went to refreshment at the Vicarage, where the Vicar and his estimable wife entertained them in the hospitable and sumptuous manner for which they are so well known, and a most agreeable and happy day was spent.

So far we copy from the *Buxton Advertiser*, and we need only add thereto that the utmost delight was expressed by all the members and visitors at the unbounded hospitality of that "Fine old English Gentleman," Bro. Augustus A. Bagshawe and his Lady; and as well with the beautiful scenery of the grounds of the Vicarage, and of Wormhill Hall, the adjacent old residence of the Bagshawe family, situate in the midst of the Derbyshire Hills.

Much regret was expressed by the members of the Phœnix Lodge of St. Ann, at the absence of the father of the Lodge and Freemasonry, Bro. John Millward, but his son, Bro. Wm. Millward, gave some very interesting information as to his father's Masonic career, and exhibited certificates in evidence. From this it appears that Bro. John Millward will be 85 years of age in November next, that he was initiated in the Lodge at Macclesfield, in the month of December 1810, was made a Master Mason and a Royal Arch Mason on 6th February 1812, in the Love and Friendship 101, and his certificate from the Chapter was signed by Thos. Barnshaw Z, Anthony Wildgoose H, Benj. Holmes J. Received the Grand Lodge certificate of Bro. W. H. White in 1812, and was a member of the Lodge of Reconciliation. Bro. Millward states that the Lodge at Longnor was chartered by Prince Charles Edward Stuart in the rising of 1745, and he gives the P.M.'s secrets as derived therefrom somewhat different to what we now have them, but this seems only traditional. The fact that Bro. John Millward has been 64 years an apprentice, and 63 years a Master and Royal Arch Mason is undeniable.

Obituary.

BRO. J. W. HILL.

IT is our painful task to inform the brethren of the very sudden death of Bro. J. W. Hill, J.D. of the Burdett Coutts Lodge, 1278, and Quarter Master Sergeant of the Tower Hamlets Volunteers and Secretary to the Hackney Masonic Hall. His remains were interred at Abney Park Cemetery, on Saturday last, in the presence of about 300 brethren. He was in his 48th year, and was loved and highly respected by all who knew him.

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DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the Kingdom will favour us with a list of their Days of Meeting, &c. as we have decided to insert only those that are verified by the Officers of the several Lodges.

MONDAY, 28th JUNE.

45—Strong Man, Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell Green, at 8. (Instruction.)
48—Industry, Freemasons' Hall, West-street, Gateshead-on-Tyne.
388—Prudence, Three Tuns, Halesworth, Suffolk.
999—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.

K. T. St. James of Jerusalem, Freemasons' Hall, Bolton.

TUESDAY, 29th JUNE.

299—Emulation, Bull Hotel, Dartford, Kent.

K. T.—Edmund Plantagenet, Corporation Hotel, Ardwick, Manchester.
K. T.—Plains of Tabor, Swan Hotel, Colne.

WEDNESDAY, 30th JUNE.

193—Confidence, White Hart, Abchurch Lane, at 7.30. (Instruction.)

187—Royal Sussex Lodge of Hospitality, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
605—Belvidere, Star Hotel, Maidstone. (Instruction.)
1083—Townley Parker, Stag Inn, Bradford, near Manchester.

R. A. 226—Benevolence, Red Lion Hotel, Littleborough, near Rochdale.

THURSDAY, 1st JULY.

24—Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Freemasons' Hall, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
110—Loyal Cambrian, Bush Hotel, Merthyr Tydvil.
289—Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Carlton Hill, Leeds.
300—Minerva, Pitt and Nelson Hotel, Ashton-under-Lyne.
317—Affability, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
362—Doric, Private Rooms, St. Peter-street, Grantham.
442—St. Peter's, Masonic Hall, Boroughbury, Peterborough.
509—Tees, Freemasons' Hall, Wellington-street, Stockton-on-Tees.
837—Portland, Town Hall, Stoke-on-Trent.
1012—Prince of Wales, Derby Hotel, Bury.
1145—Equality, Red Lion Hotel, Accrington.
1304—Olive Union, Masonic Hall, Banks-street, Newcastle.
1504—Red Rose of Lancaster, Swan Hotel, Padiham, near Burnley.

R. A. 283—Wisdom, Swan Inn, Haslingden.
R. A. 326—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Salford.

FRIDAY, 2nd JULY.

1278—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1507—Metropolitan, 269 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)

44—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
219—Prudence, Masonic Hall, Todmorden.
242—St. Georges, Town Hall, Doncaster.
306—Alfred, 23 Albion-street, Leeds.

R. A. 1385—Gladsmuir, Red Lion Hotel, Barnet.
M.M. 150—Starkie, Red Lion Hotel, Accrington.

SATURDAY, 3rd JULY.

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

1458—Truth, Royal Archer Inn, Dale-street, Manchester.

IRELAND.

THURSDAY—32—Royal Shamrock, Lodge Room, Clave's Place, Waterford.
" 111—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Belfast.
" 655—Harmony, Masonic Rooms, Francis-street, Fermoy.
FRIDAY—97—Hirams, Masonic Hall, Arthur Square, Belfast.
" 110—Kilrea, Kilrea, co. Derry.
" 164—Commercial, Masonic Hall, Londonderry.
" 228—Gorey, Gorey.
" 891—St. John's, Town Hall, Enniskillen.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

THURSDAY—97—St. James, St. James Hall, Writer's-court.
FRIDAY—291—Celtic of Edinburgh and Leith, Ship Hotel, East Register-street.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Lodge of Relief, No. 42.—A regular meeting of this time-honoured Lodge was held at the house of Bro. Lord, the Albion Hotel, Bury, on the evening of Thursday, 17th inst., when there was a good average attendance. Among those present were Bros. Edmund Eccles W.M., Alfred Buckley S.W., Joseph Skerrett J.W., Thomas Carter S.D., Thomas Barker J.D., Samuel Mosley I.G., J. Thorman Tyler, E. Simpkin Secretary; Past Masters, Bros. Harry Grundy, Fred. Anderton, and J. W. Kenyon; Visitors, Bros. Henry Taylor J.W. 286, Thomas Nuttall 1012, John Grime P.M. 128, Robert Hall 1392, and Thomas M. Owen (Manchester) 7, Union of Colorado U.S. The pedestals of Lodge were placed in mourning, in consideration of the death of Bro. J. S. Redfern, P.M. 42, and P. Prov. G.P. East Lancashire. The Lodge was duly opened, and last meeting's minutes approved, after which an advance was made to the second degree for the purpose of crafting Bros. John Redfern (son of late Bro. J. S. Redfern) and Wm. Hewitson (of the *Bury Times*), who, having acquitted themselves satisfactorily in the preliminary interrogatories, were approved and invested, and duly raised to the degree of Fellow Craft, by Bro. Harry Grundy. The Lodge was afterwards transposed to third degree, when Bro. Andrew Hagerty was advanced from the intermediate probation to the rank of Master Mason, Bro. John Grime raising him in most effective style. Bro. Grime's working is evidently copied from good patterns, and for so comparatively young a craftsman, he is certainly entitled to rank well among the local expositors of speculative Masonry. He will always find himself a "welcome guest" at Lodge 42. The Lodge was subsequently closed to the first degree, when some business of a miscellaneous nature was transacted. The Worshipful Master said, that since they last met together, Bro. J. S. Redfern had most unexpectedly gone to his last resting place, and, considering the long and honourable connection there had been between him and Masonry, in his association with that Lodge in particular, and the other Lodges in the town generally, he (Bro. Eccles) thought it would be only a seemly and a graceful act if they were to open a subscription list, with a view of raising funds for the erection of a memorial stone over Bro. Redfern's grave. Bro. Redfern had been connected with that Lodge between 40 and 50 years, for five years he was W.M., and for many a long year he was the Installing Master, and during his connection of nearly half a century with the Lodge there had not been a single present made him in recognition of his valuable services. Seeing that they had not had the pleasure of betokening in a material manner the warmth of their esteem for him during his life, he (the W.M.) thought they ought, at least, to leave some mark of their respect for his memory over his grave. (Hear, hear). Bro. Fred. Anderton gave his cordial approbation to the W.M.'s suggestion, and made some touching allusions to the departed brother, whose son was initiated at last Lodge meeting. He concluded by moving that a letter of condolence be written, on behalf of the Lodge, to the widow of late Bro. Redfern, and that a subscription list be opened, for the purpose of receiving contributions from the brethren in the town generally, for the purpose of erecting a memorial stone over Bro. Redfern's grave. Bro. J. W. Kenyon seconded the motion, which was unanimously passed. On the motion of Bro. Barker, seconded by Bro. Carter, a committee was appointed, for the purpose of giving effect to the foregoing resolution. On the motion of Bro. Mosley, it was resolved that a sum of £10 be allowed the widow of Bro. H., and that Bros. Anderton and Kenyon make an investigation of the case of the widow and children of Bro. B. (P.M.), with a view of ascertaining what method of assistance will be most serviceable. Bro. Anderton proposed Mr. Jos. Barrow, outfitter, &c., for initiation at next meeting. The Lodge was duly closed down, and the brethren afterwards edified the inner man by discussing a substantial repast, the W.M. gracing the seat of honour. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured. Bro. Simpkin gave the toast of the newly raised Bro. Hagerty, and Bro. Kenyon suitably proposed the health of the newly crafted brothers. Later on, at Bro. Kenyon's call, the brethren observed, in solemn silence, a toast in respect of late Bro. Redfern. The Tyler's toast and a verse of the National Anthem brought a genial spirited and successful meeting to a close.

Angel Lodge, No. 51.—A Lodge of Emergency was held in the Lodge Room, Cups Hotel, Colchester, on Thursday last, for the purpose of the installation of the W.M. for the ensuing year. The choice of the brethren having unanimously fallen upon the S.W., Bro. Alfred Welch, he was presented by the W.M., Bro. Chas. Cobb, and the ceremony of installation was performed in a most impressive manner by the V.W. Bro. Rev. C. J. Martyn P.M. 1234, Past Grand Chaplain of England. The W.M. appointed the following as his officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. G. G. Pye S.W., S. W. Crookes J.W., Wm. Slaney Treas., T. J. Ralling Sec., Rev. C. L. Aoland Chap., Fred A. Cole I.P.M. D.C., T. S. Holroyd S.D., I. Harris J.D., J. Hanly I.G., W. W. Daniell and T. A. Middleton Stewards, and C. Gunner Tyler. The brethren afterwards partook of a sumptuous banquet *a la Russe*, under the presidency of the new W.M., and the pleasures of the proceedings were greatly enhanced by the vocal renderings of Bro. Donald W. King, F. H. Cozens and T. Distin. Letters of regret at their inability to attend were received from Bros. Lord Waveney P.G.M. Suffolk; Hugh D. Sandeman District Grand Master for Bengal; R. J. Spiers D.P.G.M. Oxon; Sir Edward Greathed K.C.B., Major-General Commanding Eastern District, &c.

Love and Honour Lodge, No. 75.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on 4th June, at Freemasons' Hall, Royal Hotel, Falmouth. Present—Bros. Michael Little I.P.M. W.M. pro tem., Thomas Webber S.W., Arthur B. Harris J.W., Joseph Wallace S.D. pro tem, Wilson L. Fox J.D., William Johns D.C., Charles H. Williams Steward, Edward May I.G. pro tem, William Rusdin Tyler, William D. Rogers Secretary, Walter F. Newman P.M. P.P.G.S.D., &c. Treasurer. Past Masters, Bros. Francis Dennis P.P.G.S. and John Vivian. Business transacted: The Lodge was opened in due form, minutes of last Lodge read and confirmed. It was unanimously resolved to prepare a memorial, to be signed by the Master, Past Masters, Wardens, Officers and Brethren, asking the R.W. the P.G. Master to appoint Falmouth as the town for holding the P.G. Lodge in 1876. Resolved that the following brethren form a committee to prepare the memorial, viz: Bros. M. Little I.P.M., T. Webber S.W., B. Harris J.W., W. F. Newman Treasurer, and Wm. D. Rogers Secretary, Mr. F. D. Broad, of this town, broker, a candidate for initiation, was balloted for and accepted; he was initiated in due form, and the Lodge was fully explained by the W. Master, Bro. Little. The Lodge was then closed in due form, and the brethren retired.

Prince Edwin Lodge, No. 128.—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was held at the house of Bro. E. Whittam, the Bridge Inn, Bury, on the evening of Wednesday, the 16th inst. There was a good attendance, among the brethren being Bros. Warwick Wood W.M., W. S. Barlow S.W., J. Senior J.W., Samuel Wood (acting for Edward Robinson S.D.), Thomas Ramsbottom jun. J.D., John Loftus Chaplain, Jos. Wolstenholm I.G., Wright Greenhalgh Tyler, Thomas Ramsbottom sen. Secretary, Thomas Wood Treasurer; Past Masters, Bros. John Grime, Charles Wood, John Holt, Thomas Wood, John Clegg, Samuel Wood, William Halstead, Jonathan Davenport, and others; Visitors, Bros. Harry Woodcock 1012, John Olive 1392, Samuel Mosley I.G. 42, J. Hopkinson 1392, Thomas Sedgwick 42, and others. The Lodge was opened and sustained throughout in the first degree. Mr. John Pilling and Mr. Thomas Tattersall secured a clear ballot, and were duly inducted into the elements of 'prentice Masonry by the W.M., who acquitted himself in a most impressive and masterly manner, while Bro. Senior's explanation of the working tools was all that could be desired. Mr. Samuel Wrigley, contractor, was proposed for initiation, and the Lodge was closed down, at 9.30.

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Era Lodge of Mark Masters, No. 176.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held at the Bridge House Hotel, Borough High Street, on Friday, 18th June. Present—J. T. Moss W.M., H. A. Dubois S.W., J. B. Langley J.W., Rev. P.M. Holden Chaplain, F. Walters P.G.P. (Middlesex) P.M. Secretary, J. Horton S.O., J. Johnson I.G., F. Walters D.C., &c. Bro. J. T. Moss W.M. opened the Lodge, and the minutes were read and confirmed. Ballot was unanimous in favour of Bro. H. C. Levander P.G.D.C. P.M. as a joining member. The W.M. then advanced Bro. J. Allsopp P.M. 879, J. McNaughton 871, E. Seville 1275, W. Underwood 1423, J. B. Shackleton 1326, &c., and he installed Bro. H. A. Dubois as W.M., who appointed the following as his officers:—J. T. Moss I.P.M., J. B. Langley S.W., Rev. P.M. Holden J.W. and Chaplain, T. H. Miller Treas, F. Walters P.G.P. P.M. Secretary, T. Horton Reg. of Marks, W. Hammond M.O., A. F. Loos S.O., J. Johnsons J.O., J. Allsopp S.D., W. Underwood J.D., J. B. Shackleton I.G., J. Wallis W.S., R. Y. Laing Tyler. A five guinea P.M. jewel was voted to Bro. J. T. Moss, for the able manner he had fulfilled his duties during his year of office. Visitors: Bros. J. H. Spencer G.I.G., T. Dand P.G.J.D., Devon, Secretary 15, William Sugg P.M. Bon Accord. A banquet followed, provided by Bro. Spencer, after which harmony prevailed, and some very excellent speeches were given and responded to.

United Lodge, No. 697.—At the monthly meeting, held at Colchester, on the 11th inst., a handsome gold Past Master's Jewel was presented to Bro. the Rev. Eustace H. Crate, on his retirement from the chair of K.S. The Jewel is inscribed as follows:—"Presented to Bro. the Rev. E. H. Crate, by the brethren of the United Lodge, No. 697, as a token of their appreciation of the zeal and ability displayed by him as W.M. Colchester, June 1875."

Crescent Lodge, No. 788.—A meeting of this Lodge was held Tuesday, 22nd June, at Island Hotel, Twickenham. Present—Bros. P.M.'s F. D. Kennedy, S. Larcomb, J. D. McDougall, G. Cordwell, W. H. Thompson, J. C. Hester, and J. M. Stedwell; Bros. F. Lane, H. Mead, E. T. Edwards, F. McDougall, J. T. Measom, G. Hinchcliffe, J. Bowyer, E. Downs, R. W. South, and S. J. Beeton. Visitors, Bros. Fred. Kent P.M. No. 177, H. M. Levy P.M. No. 188. Bros. G. Hinchcliffe and J. T. Measom were severally passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. Bro. Levy gave an amusing entertainment at the banquet which followed.

Unity Chapter, No. 1151, Tywardreath.—The annual Convocation of this Chapter was held Tuesday, 15th June, for the installation of officers for the ensuing twelve months, transaction of the usual business and exaltation of candidates for this degree, &c. Comps. Guy M.E.Z., T. Stephens H., Dr. Davis J., &c. Two candidates appearing, were balloted for and exalted. The Chapter was then formed for the Installation, when Comp. the Rev. George Ross P.Z. proceeded, in his usual impressive manner, to instal Comps. T. Stephens Z., Dr. Davis H., W. Polkinghorne J., A Elford Scr. E., W. Tonkin P.S., Collins Scr. N., J. Polkinghorne Treasurer, J. Martyn S.S., T. Walton J.S., and Elliott Janitor. After this the Companions adjourned to Bro. Cooks, where an excellent banquet was provided, given as a compliment to the St. Austell Companions, for their valuable services to the Chapter, after which the usual Masonic and Loyal toasts were given and responded to enthusiastically.

Warren Lodge, No 1276.—This Lodge met on 15th inst., at the Stanley Arms Hotel, Seacombe, Cheshire. Present—Bro. W. R. Bainbridge P.M. 721 as W.M., James Redshalgh S.W., John Pemberton P.M. as J.W., Henry Skinner S.D., J. C. Lawrence J.D., R. W. Holt P.M. D.C., D. Gillet Steward, T. M. Pennington as I.G., J. A. Gambell Tyler, W. H. Francis Treasurer; P.M.'s T. S. Jones, Holt, Pemberton. Visitors, Bros. James Harding 1393, William Beard 477; and twenty-eight members. Business transacted:—One initiation, three raisings, £3 3s voted for charity, £2 2s subscribed for a special gift to Chester Cathedral, three propositions for initiation received. The Lodge was then closed in perfect harmony.

Stanley Lodge, No. 1325, Liverpool.—On Tuesday evening, the 15th inst, the annual installation meeting of this Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, where there was a large gathering of the brethren of that and other Lodges. Bro. Crosby Leighton W.M. presided at the opening, and the chair was subsequently taken by Bro. T. Ashmore P.M. 823, who duly installed Bro. H. Ashmore as the W.M. for the ensuing year. The following officers were afterwards appointed:—Bros. F. Knight S.W., James W. Burgess J.W., C. Heden Sec., T. Leighton P.M., Treas., Davis S.D., T. H. Bradshaw J.D., G. D. Gilbert I.G., C. Leighton I.P.M. D.C., Anderson Steward, and P. Larsen Tyler. During the evening an elegant P.M.'s jewel was presented to Bro. C. Leighton I.P.M. as a mark of the esteem of the brethren.

Lebanon Lodge, No. 1326.—This rapidly increasing Lodge met on Saturday, 19th inst, at the Red Lion Tavern, Hampton. Bro. W. Hammond P.G.P. Middlesex M.W., Gilbert S.W., C. W. Fox J.W., F. Walters P.G.. Middlesex Secretary, J. W. Baldwin I.G., H. Potter P.M. W.S. The W.M. opened the Lodge, and ballots having been taken for the admission of Messrs. Adams, Graham and Knight, those gentlemen were initiated. Bro. W. Crush was then passed to the second degree. Bro. F. Walters P.G.P. Middlesex, by the courtesy of the W.M., then occupied the chair, and raised Bro. Lucop. The following brethren were recommended for Provincial Grand Honours:—Bros. Hammond and R. W. Williams, and E. Gilbert S.W. for Steward for the Anniversary Festival of the Girls' School for 1876, showing that this Lodge, though but young, is not unmindful of the duties required of it. The election of W.M. then took place, and Bro. H. Dubois was elected. Bro. S. Wickens P.M. was re-elected Treasurer, and J. Gilbert Tyler. The following brethren were elected auditors: W. Stanton, H. Gloster, J. B. Shackleton, and the audit meeting was announced to take place at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, at 7 o'clock. Bro. F. Walters P.M. P.G.P. and Hon. Secretary then gave notice of motion that the sum of 10 guineas be given from the funds of the Lodge, to be expended either in the purchase of a Life Governorship or a P.M. Jewel, for the manner in which Bro. Hammond had conducted the duties of the Lodge, and the esteem and regard he is held in by the brethren. It was announced on 8th July, with deep regret, that Bro. J. W. Jackson, who was present on the meeting 15th May, had died suddenly, of conjestion of the lungs, on 15th June. The Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a very capital banquet, where the usual toasts were given. The visitors were Bros. Hemming 1512, Kendler, E. H. Thiellay S.W. 425, 145, T. E. Walls I.G. 1503, &c. A very harmonious evening was passed, and the brethren separated.

Skelmersdale Lodge, No. 1380, Liverpool.—The first annual picnic of the members of this Lodge took place on Wednesday the 16th inst., and although the weather was not of the most pleasant kind, the large party which started on the excursion enjoyed the "out" very greatly. The brethren and their lady friends started by 'bus from the Queen's Hotel, Waterloo, where the meetings of the Lodge are held, and driving through Crosby, Sefton, Ormskirk, &c., arrived in due course at Lathom House, the seat of Bro. Lord Skelmersdale., D.G.M., R.W.P.G.M. of West Lancashire, who had kindly given the privilege of allowing his house and grounds to be visited. His lordship, besides consenting to allow his name to be given to the Lodge, at its consecration, also acted as the first W.M., and under his distinguished auspices it has had a career of prosperity. After an excellent dinner on arrival, provided by Bro. H. Brown, of the Commercial Hotel, Ormskirk, the party inspected the house and grounds, and then dancing was kept up with zest until tea was served, the return journey being made shortly afterwards. The rain on the way to Lathom House somewhat marred the complete pleasure of the picnic, but the weather cleared up during the afternoon, and the return by moonlight was greatly enjoyed. As a pleasant preliminary to the day's proceedings, the W.M. presented Bro. George Broadbridge with a very handsome dining-room timepiece and ornaments *en suite*, which were furnished by Messrs. Elkington and Co., of Church Street. The clock bore the following inscription:—"Presented to Bro. George Broadbridge, P.M., P.P.G.D.C. W.L., by the members of the Skelmersdale Lodge, No. 1380, as a mark of their esteem, and appreciation of his valuable services in promoting the prosperity of the Lodge since its formation." The presentation was suitably acknowledged by Bro. Broadbridge. The whole of the day's proceedings passed off very pleasantly, and every one present seemed to enjoy what is likely to be the first of a series of similar festivals.

Halsey Lodge, No. 1479, St. Albans.—An emergency meeting of this Lodge was held on Friday, the 18th inst., at the Town Hall, St. Albans, to appoint a committee to make the necessary arrangements for the meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge, and to invest the Secretary. Present—G. Askew W.M., A. Godson S.W., I. Edwards J.W., Kent, Venables, Marks, and P.M.'s Webster, Catbush, Terry, Lowthin, Wingham, and several brethren. The following gentlemen were appointed on the committee, to act as above:—The W.M., S.W. and J.W., Secretary and Treasurer, P.M. Lowthin, Bros. Marks, Purrott and Harding, with power to add to their number. The following brethren were recommended to receive Prov. honours, Bros. P.M.'s Lowthin, Harding, Webster; Bros. Godson and I. Edwards. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the "Peahen," where the usual toasts were proposed. The health of the W.M., proposed by Bro. Carter, was briefly and wittily responded to.

Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, No. 1507.—A meeting was held at the Metropolitan Club, 269 Pentonville Road, N., on Friday, 18th inst. Present—Bros. Michael W.M., Kingham S.W., Side J.W., Adams P.G.P. Preceptor, Shand S.D., Willing J.D., Sainsbury I.G., Stiles Sec., and Bros. Rapkin, Read, Ormiston, Berrie, Carter, Reepe, Scales and Dawkins. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation rehearsed; Bro. Stiles candidate. Bro. Berrie offered himself as candidate for passing, was examined, entrusted, and withdrew. The Lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bro. Berrie passed to the degree of F.C. Bro. Shand offered himself as a candidate for raising, and having duly qualified himself, was was entrusted and withdrew. The Lodge was opened in the third degree, and Bro. Shand raised to the degree of M.M. Lodge resumed to the first degree. Bro. Kingham S.W. was unanimously elected W.M. at ensuing meeting. The Lodge was then closed in due form and perfect harmony.

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FIRST NOTICE.

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We confess we had looked for a few more "rarities," such as the "Post Boy," and the false revelations of 1717 to 1725, the "Cat Out of the Bag," &c.; but noticing the occurrence of some works in duplicates, we find cause to suspect that some of the rarer have been privately disposed of, and their places filled by duplicates of others. We have had the pleasure to inspect some of them occasionally at Bro. Spencer's, and have found them generally in excellent preservation, bound or half-bound, some sumptuously gilt and tooled, the various series of volumes being generally uniform.

We may here remark that of the works on Freemasonry in general, prior to 1717, mentioned by Dr. Kloss, some seem to be apocryphal, and others indirectly related to the subject—Van Helmont, to wit (see lot 437)—many early works of the latter description are in this Catalogue which were apparently unknown to the great bibliographer.

Commencing on the first page of the Catalogue, we find a number of extremely scarce books, both English and foreign, and one, *The Mystery*, probably unique. *The Relation apologique* was publicly burned at Rome. The complete sets of editions of the French revelations, *L'ordre trahi* and *Les Francs-Maçons écrasés*, are notable, *Le secret* and *Le sceau rompu* are extremely scarce. We next come upon a congeries of peculiar rituals, *Solomon*, *Mahhabone*, *Tubal Cain*, *Shibboleth*, *Three distinct Knocks*, and a wonderful series of the editions of *Jachin and Boaz*: many of these are useful for the *Lists of Lodges* they contain, and are sure to be eagerly sought after by those of us who cannot hope to get Freemasons' Calendars or Pine's Lists of corresponding years.

Of Rituals of Ladies' Masonry (which obtained a footing in this country during the latter part of the last century), there is a goodly number, scattered among various lots. *Freemasonry for the Ladies* (dedicated to H.R.H. the Duchess of York), *La vraie Maçonnerie d'Adoption*, *Vier Stücke über den Freymaurer und Freydamen*, *Ueber den Rosenerden* (on the ladies' Order of the Rose), *Manuel des Franches Maçonnes*, &c. Of the time (1770—1785), when the baffled Jesuits were making such persistent efforts to pervert the Order by the invention of high degrees, there are a number of works in illustration, culminating in *Les Jesuites chassés*, and the great *Starck Controversy*, for which see p. 100 of this journal. The philosophical controversy, consequent upon the dissemination of weird notions of Swedenborg and the dawning knowledge of magnetism, appears in Lot 98—*Erreurs et Verité*—a work which produced a remarkable sensation throughout Europe, *Tableau naturel*, &c., &c. On all these now forgotten discussions Bro. Findel, in his History, touches lightly; there is far more in them to interest and even to enthrall the student. We next come upon an humble reflection from *Bacon's Atalantis*, the *Enthüllung des Systems der Weltbürger-Republik*, with the sequels and replies it elicited. Then we find various contemporaneous works on the notorious Cagliostro, most of them dictated by a strong bias of "hit him hard, he has no friends," which is regrettable, inasmuch as they contain unwilling evidence that he must have been a gifted mesmerist, apart from his charlatanic proclivities. Consult the impartial "Colmache's Reminiscences of Prince Talleyrand," chap. 4, pp 122-143 (2 vols. Colburn, 1848), in support of this view.* The little that has come down to us concerning *Schreyfer* is contained in lot 177, in the scarce *Tombeau de Jacques Molai*, and similar tracts. The *Asiatic Knights*, the *African Architects*, and other degrees, well repay investigation; they were results of the mystico-philosophical craving spirit of their age. Of the ignorance of historians concerning them, the specimen page of a new Masonic Encyclopædia, now in the press, affords a case in point, as follows:—"Asiatic System, or Brothers of Asia:—A Masonic sect with somewhat mystical theories, which arose in Germany about the year 1780. It explained, somewhat fancifully, the symbols, rites and words of Freemasonry. There were several degrees all more or less tinctured with the speculations of the Rosicrucians and Hermetic Masonry."

This does not evince much strain upon the industry of a compiler who has profited by the labours of Oliver and Mackey.

Les Masques arrachés, *Le voile levé*, *Le tombeau*, *Les Jacobins démasqués*, are all curious and to-day practically unattainable by booksellers. From these are derived the valuable notes to *De Luchet's Essai sur la secte des Illuminés*, to which members of the high degrees appeal for proof of the sanction of the Great Frederick. They pointed the way for Mounier, Barruell, and Robison, and led statesmen to confound Freemasonry with all sorts of secret horrors.

The mysterious Unbekaunten, or secret commanders, appear in lots 88 and 153. The authors, Fessler, Velthusen, Thory, Laurens, Ragotzky, Krause, Heldmann, Chemin-Dupontès, Des Etangs, are all represented, and the history (*soi-disant*) by Lawrie is also there. The secret societies of the French Army, the Fehengericht, the Frères Pontifes, the Carbonari, the black brotherhood, and other secret societies of objects more or less laudable, appear in lots 188 and 199. The second Masonic controversy (of 1815) which raged hotly among Protestant Theologians (on the impolicy of State toleration of a secret society), commenced by the *Stimme der Warnung* of Councillor Schmalz, and followed up by Niebuhr, is in lot 189; in 190 we find a work which is seldom quoted, but which contains a rich fund of Masonic interest, albeit of anti-Masonic tendency, "Mac Benac." No. 203 contains "Saudoval," a Masonic work of high order, in which romance subserves the end of history: from the pen of a Spanish refugee of rank, whose narrative is founded on fact, and "quorum pars magna fui." It traces the progress of political Freemasonry in Spain, and its pictures of society and manners, apart from the deep interest of the story, would alone attest its worth. Other curious Masonic romances are found in lots 151, 170, 229 and 233. Many unobtainable books and tracts, published in British India, next claim attention (220, 231), and notably the *Handbook of Stapelton*, Calcutta, 1847.

A copious representation of Masonic Numismatics is the *Numotheca* in lot 218, without which no Masonic Library is complete. *Godwin's Marks on Stones* (227) will be useful to Mark Lodges. We hope to return to this subject, completing our survey, next week, for our space warns us to be brief. A review of the works in this Catalogue constitutes a history in itself, illustrating the vicissitudes and the vagaries of the Masonic idea in almost every clime.

* The truthfulness and perspicacity of the critical Talleyrand, an eyewitness, may well be set off against the wild diatribe of the great word-painter Carlyle, and of other commentators upon hearsay of hearsay.

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